

REPORT
ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF
BIKANER

FOR

1911-12.

Administration Report of Bikaner

For the year 1911-12.

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CHAPTER I.

General and Political.

1. *Principal Events.*—The year under report was one of continued prosperity and well-being in Bikaner. It was marked by two great events, both of which were without a precedent. The first was the ever-memorable Imperial Durbar held at Delhi by His Imperial Majesty the King-Emperor for the purpose of making known to the Princes and People of India the solemnity of his Coronation. The second was the celebration at Bikaner itself of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the accession of His Highness the Maharajah to the Gadi of the State.

2. His Highness attended the Imperial Durbar in three capacities, first as one of the leading Ruling Princes in response to an invitation from His Excellency the Viceroy, second as a Member of the Committee responsible for the arrangements at Delhi and third as an Aide-de-Camp to His Imperial Majesty the King-Emperor. His Highness was present at all the ceremonies held at Delhi on the occasion of the Imperial visit, either with his principal Sardars and Officers, as the Ruler of Bikaner or in personal attendance on His Imperial Majesty.

3. Bikaner, in common with the rest of India, had its local celebrations in honour of the great event at Delhi. A Durbar was held at the capital on the 12th of December 1911, the day of the Imperial Durbar, at which the Royal Proclamation was read both in English and in the vernacular by the senior officer present, and an Imperial Salute of 101 guns was fired. The Proclamation was also read on the same day in all other principal towns of the State by the senior local officer, and as at Bikaner, a portrait of His Imperial Majesty was exhibited to the assembled people. A review of His Highness's forces was held, prisoners were released, school children were feasted, and the poor were fed. Illuminations were general and prayers were offered in the temples and the mosques. The 7th of December, the day of the State Entry of Their Imperial Majesties into Delhi, was observed as a public holiday as well as the 12th December.

4. His Highness the Maharajah was created a Knight Grand Commander of the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India (G. C. S. I.) on the day of the Coronation Durbar, and was invested with the Insignia of this high degree by His Imperial Majesty in person at the Investiture held in the King Emperor's Camp at Delhi on the evening of the 14th December 1911.

The Honours received on the same occasion by Bikaner subjects were:—

- (1) The title of Rao Bahadur was conferred on (1) Thakur (now Raja) Hari Singh of Mahajan, Public Works Member of the State Council, and (2) Thakur Rughubar Singh, formerly Revenue Member, as a mark of appreciation of the services rendered by them in the administration of Bikaner.
- (2) Diwan Bahadur Seth Kastur Chand Daga was created a Knight Commander of the Most Eminent Order of the Indian Empire (K. C. I. E.)

5. The celebration of the 25th Anniversary of His Highness the Maharajah's accession was carried out with great rejoicing throughout the State and at the

capital. The proceedings were marked by very remarkable enthusiasm and by a unanimity of sentiment among all classes of the people, while His Highness on his side signalled the occasion by many boons and concessions of the greatest value to his subjects.

It had been intended to confine the festivities to certain religious ceremonies and a grand Durbar, but the strong desire of all classes to do the highest honour to their Ruler led to the elaboration of a much more extensive programme.

6. The series of festivities and entertainments organized by the public commenced on the 20th September 1912 and lasted for eight days, while a second series was organized by the State to commence in November, His Excellency the Viceroy being present. The latter will be recorded in the report for 1912-13.

7. On the 20th September a State Garden Party was held at Lallgarh, at which all the principal Sardars and Officers were received by His Highness the Maharajah. On the afternoon of the 21st, the officers of His Highness's forces entertained His Highness the Maharajah, the Maharaj Kumar Sahib, and the principal Sardars and Officers with Military sports.

8. On the 22nd September the state procession to the temple of Sri Lakshmi Narainji was held. It included the Camel Corps, the Cavalry and the Body Guard, a detachment of the Sadul Light Infantry, the ceremonial horses in their gold and silver accoutrements, the Band, the Chetdars and Naqibs bearing the ensigns of State.

9. In the afternoon of the same day the civil officials of the State had the honour of entertaining His Highness the Maharajah, the Maharaj Kumar, and the principal Sardars and Officers at a Garden Party held at the Victoria Memorial Club. On the 23rd September His Highness paid a visit to Kodamdesar, a sacred place 16 miles from the City.

10. On the 24th, the actual anniversary of His Highness's accession, the ceremonies commenced with the firing of a Salute early in the morning followed by a release of prisoners. Afterwards a Durbar was held in the Ganga Niwas Palace in the Fort, and was attended by the Sardars and officials, both European and Indian, and the general public. Lt.-Col. C. J. Widdham, Resident in the Western Rajputana States, was present and congratulated His Highness the Maharajah in the following words:—

" Your Highness, Rajah and Sardars of the Bikaner State. Officers and Gentlemen,—I have been fortunate enough to enjoy the honour of His Highness's friendship for a period of about 17 years, ever since the days when he was quite a boy and before the exceptionally successful tutelage of Mr. Brian Egerton commenced. It is, therefore, a special pleasure and privilege to me to find it fall to my lot to-day to have to express, on behalf of all here, the congratulations which, I am sure, we all most heartily offer to His Highness, on the 24th Anniversary of his accession to the throne of the Bikaner State.

To even realise properly all that His Highness's rule has meant for the State would be difficult enough; while to attempt any statement of it would be almost an impossible task. I shall, therefore, merely confine myself to saying that the revenue has leaped up by lakhs and more than doubled itself, while peace and smiling prosperity now almost universally prevail where internal rebellion and other grave troubles previously cast their bleak shade. I should like though just to add a word about what always strikes me as perhaps one of the most distinctive results of His Highness's rule. There is probably no State in India where the immemorial culture and genius of the East and the traditions of the Ruler and his race are more happily blended than they are in Bikaner, with the signs, the energy and the practical activity of the West. Evidences of this result are to be seen in every direction; in fact, of Bikaner, it can, I think, quite truly be said that good healthy tradition and reform are, so to speak, the warp and the woof of the administration.

Some of you here possibly know already that there is to be a large distribution of boons and reliefs in commemoration of this occasion, in addition to honours and privileges which have been published this morning; and His Highness has been kind enough to show me in advance a list of these boons; but as they will be shortly announced in this very Durbar I will not refer to them further than to say that here again you will find a prescient and cautious blend of East and West in the bestowal by His Highness of certain important political rights on his people, in the hope, I feel sure, that he may in some measure prepare them for the rising tide of political advancement which has now set in this direction from the West, and which must almost inevitably overtake them in the future. I now beg to offer to Your Highness, on behalf of every one here, heartiest congratulations on all the circumstances of the present occasion, and most sincere wishes for the welfare of Your Highness, Your Highness's Family and your State and people in the future."

11. His Highness's reply was as follows :—

"Colonel Windham, Rajvis, Sirdars, Officials and Gentlemen,—I wish in all humility to offer my devout thanks to Almighty God that He has in His grace so willed that I should to-day complete twenty-five years of my reign and that He should have blessed the State and its Administration with success in our many important undertakings.

"Colonel Windham, I beg you will accept my warmest and most sincere thanks for your very friendly congratulations and for the most cordial terms in which you have expressed them and in which you have referred to my administration. I am sure. I and my people all value the congratulations of the British Resident on such an occasion, but we welcome them all the more as coming from an officer who, by repeated practical demonstrations of his tact, sympathy, and genuine friendship, has become deservedly popular in Jodhpur and Bikaner and, as I also know, in Jeysulmer and Sirohi, of which States he is also the Resident. It is moreover a great pleasure to me personally to receive congratulations from a friend of such old standing.

"The Resident has alluded in appreciative terms to the work which Mr. Brian Egerton did in Bikaner as my Tutor and Guardian. No reference in Colonel Windham's speech could have been more pleasing to me, for, recognizing as I gratefully do how much I owe to the care and ability and thoroughness with which Mr. Egerton laboured in grounding me in all the intricacies and details of my future work and responsibilities, and, realizing as I do almost every day what substantial help his training has been to me, I can never let any opportunity go by without expressing my deepest sense of indebtedness—indebtedness which I can never repay adequately by words or deeds—to my old Tutor and dearest friend who is the embodiment of all the qualities of courage, sympathy and unselfish devotion to duty.

"Before turning to other subjects, will you permit me, Colonel Windham, to also offer you my grateful thanks for the substantial assistance and sympathetic and friendly advice which I have on all occasions received from you?

"Of the past twenty-five years, nearly fourteen cover the period since I attained my majority and assumed the reins of government. Throughout that time I have laboured earnestly and incessantly, according to the light within me, to promote the prosperity of my State and the welfare of my people.

"Though I am conscious that much yet remains to be done, I thank God that I can, in all modesty, look back upon this period with the satisfaction which is the reward of every Ruler who is conscious of having tried to do his duty to his God, to his Emperor, to his State and to his people.

"The introduction of far-reaching and important reforms in the various branches of the State Administration—executive and judicial, the strengthening of the Finance Department of the State and the placing of it on a sound footing by the appointment at its head of an expert and able officer, the removal of any defects that existed before, the employment of better paid and more competent officers, the liberal expenditure of public money on much needed public works, on education, on sanitation, and on medical relief, on the extension of Railways, on the increased means of water supply in the shape of constructing and repairing wells, tanks and kunds, the suppression of dacoities and the marked decrease of serious crime, the security of life, liberty and property, which is now enjoyed by every one throughout the length and breadth of the State, and the perfect peace and tranquillity, which reign within my borders—these are all indications of the fact that the efforts, which have been made to promote the well-being of the State and the people, have not been without success; whilst the vast improvements and the many buildings, which have tended to beautify the Capital, have altogether changed Bikaner from what it was even fourteen years ago. Efforts have been made from almost the beginning of my administration to secure the priceless blessings of canal irrigation in a not inconsiderable portion of the State. By the grace of God and the sympathetic co-operation of the Government of India, we are, I hope, within a measurable distance of achieving success, and by the fruition of this most important Sutlej Canal Irrigation Scheme, an era of hitherto unknown prosperity will be opened to the people of Bikaner.

"I am not so vain as to claim the credit for all this entirely myself. My share for the greater part has lain in giving my hearty approval and support to the many European and Indian officers, who have formed the backbone of my administration, and in rendering the best services in my power to my State and my people. The rest of the credit is due to the able band of officers which it has been our good fortune to collect around me, and one factor which, above all, has contributed to what success we have achieved, is that India is under the reign of the British Rule. During this period the Ruling Princes have enjoyed immunity from internecine wars and disturbances, and the time and labour which they had to spend in former days in maintaining their *feudal* authority and independence, they have, in the present times of peace, been able wholly to devote to the peaceful development of resources, to the contentment and advancement of their people, and to the progress and prosperity of their States.

"As I have already said I recognize full well how much yet remains to be done and I am sure every one will join me in the prayer that, by the same grace of God which has guided and supported us in the past, we shall be enabled to continue to march on the line of progress and prosperity in the same spirit of true patriotism and self-sacrifice, not only for the rest of my time but also in that of your future ruler and of those who follow him.

- "I am personally not given to self-aggrandisement and our work of the past fourteen years so far as I have been concerned has been carried on unostentatiously. Self-advertisement and paper reforms are abhorrent to me and I have always endeavoured to face facts as they are and not as fancy would depict them.
- "When however the necessity for action has been clear, I have disregarded opposition and have tried to follow without doubt or hesitation the path that duty and conscience have dictated. It is in this spirit that I have considered the boons, which it is my desire to confer on my subjects on this memorable occasion. These will be read out to you by the Home Member and are published in detail in the State Gazette.
- "The most important announcement amongst the boons is that relating to the people's Representative Assembly. The reasons for the same are already explained in the notification in the Gazette announcing the boons, *viz.*, my conviction that Rulers and the ruled have an equal interest in the well-being of the State and that, therefore, as they prove themselves fit, the ruled have a right to have a progressive voice and share in the Government.
- "To their great glory and honour, the British Government has set a noble example in this direction to the entire modern world. The end and aim of all Governments is, and ought to be, the good of the people, and that Government justifies itself best which secures the greatest possible good of the greatest possible number of the people entrusted to its care. It is my firm conviction that the possibilities of achieving such a result are vastly greater under a system of government which is carried on in consonance with the wishes and opinions of the people and where possible with the advice and consent of its subjects, or their chosen representatives. I can say with all sincerity that I have in the past fourteen years consulted the leaders of the various communities whenever occasion demanded it and have not only freely consulted them but have equally freely welcomed their candid opinions and honest criticisms. And needless to say I and the State Administration have paid all due consideration and regard to such opinions and criticisms. I believe that I can also with equal correctness state that I sowed the first seeds of a government on the system to which I have just referred, when the Revenue Conference was expanded in 1908 into an Administrative Conference, where apart from the Members of Council and Secretaries of the Durbar and the Heads of the various Departments, I made a practice of inviting some private gentlemen to attend the annual meetings, to take part in its deliberations and to submit proposals for the advancement of the State and its people. I should have been glad, had circumstances permitted, to have added a larger number of, what I might term, non-official members to this Administrative Conference, but that for the time being was rendered difficult by the unhappy political disturbance which a few years ago occurred in a certain important section of the subjects of the State. Much valuable time was therefore lost and now that conditions are again normal, I decided that it was best to move a distinct step forward, instead of merely adding to the Administrative Conference.
- "And in coming to this conclusion I was influenced by another consideration. The Administrative Conference was after all too much of an official body, and for the greater part an Administrative Institution, and it had no powers beyond submitting proposals.
- "I can conscientiously say that had the education of the people in general and their public training been higher, I should have gladly welcomed the assistance in the Administration, of a Legislative Assembly or a Legislative Council in the true sense of the word, but I have no desire to do anything which would be unreal or which would make us the laughing-stock of the world. I can safely promise for myself that should the time come for it, whether it be in five years, or ten years or more, when the people have shown themselves fitted for it, I shall be only too pleased to extend the powers and duties that are now proposed to be entrusted to the people's Representative Assembly. All that I aim at, at present, in sanctioning the scheme is to give my subjects not so much an immediate power or voice in the Administration as to initiate a system under which they will be trained to become efficient members of a really Representative Assembly with, when the time comes, powers considerably enhanced beyond those laid down in the present scheme.

"Perhaps I might here attempt to explain the general constitution and duties of the Representative Assembly as it will be to start with. A great many details have yet to be worked out and I do not think it will be possible to inaugurate the meeting of the Representative Assembly until January or February of next year at the earliest, but I might state, subject to any alteration in minor details that may have to be made when the scheme is completed, that the Assembly will consist of some 20 to 30 members composed of *ex-officio* and nominated, as well as elected, members.

"While there will be no restrictions as to caste or creed, and endeavours will be made with a view to having the various important communities represented on its body, I have no thought of giving any special privileges in the way of nomination or election on the grounds of religion, because, as His Excellency the present Viceroy said in a speech, which he made shortly after his arrival in India, 'special privileges to one class are synonymous with corresponding disabilities to others.'

"As regards their powers I hope to be able to give this Assembly exactly the same powers as the Imperial Legislative Council of His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General of India as regards the right of interpellation, of moving resolutions, as well as of submitting private Bills, the difference being that a copy of the sanctioned budget will be laid on the table of the Assembly and any suggestions and remarks offered by the Assembly will be duly considered by the Durbar later. In regard to legislative measures, private members will have the right, subject to the usual conditions, of discussing State Bills and of presenting Bills to the Assembly and of proposing amendments and expressing their opinion. These Bills will be dealt with by me in Council in the same way as is done now. Except, therefore, in cases of emergency, no Bills will be passed unless they have first been discussed in the Representative Assembly. As regards the budget, the Assembly will have nearly the same powers as the Imperial Legislative Council under the Indian Councils Act of 1892.

"The ultimate power of accepting or rejecting their resolutions or recommendations rests with the Ruler and the Durbar.

"It follows that when the views of the Representative Assembly on matters of legislation and the budget come before me and the Durbar, they will naturally receive due consideration and according as the Assembly conducts its business with loyalty, dignity, public spirit and self-sacrifice, so will its opinions and proposals receive more weight and consideration.

"No similar Assembly could start under better auspices. It has not only the sincere goodwill of myself and the Members of my Administration, but we all welcome its members as partners in the responsible duties of administering and strengthening the State.

"The future of this Assembly rests in the hands of God and to a less extent in its own hands. Its salvation and that of the Ruler of the State, State itself, and the subjects of the State, can only be attained by a system of peaceful evolution to the advantage of all concerned. I can only pray and hope that the confidence which I am reposing in my people in thus spontaneously conferring upon them this substantial privilege, will be as warmly reciprocated by a loyal and patriotic effort on their part to make the experiment a complete success by the sacrifice of selfish interests and by their determination to serve me and my successors and my State with loyalty, faithfulness and devotion. May God bless this undertaking.

"When I heard from many reliable sources that the people of the State were anxious that the completion of my 25 years of reign should be marked with these celebrations I gave my consent to the proposals because, although it meant bringing ourselves somewhat prominently before the general public in India, which was contrary to the policy of unostentatious work which I have been pursuing, I felt that the advantages were of a considerable importance. Apart from the obvious impetus which such celebrations give to trade generally, I had great hopes that these festivities would be the means of still more closely uniting the various interests and communities and that inasmuch as they would be the happy means

of bringing the Ruler and the ruled in Bikaner State still more closely together, they would contribute to mutual confidence and good-will and thereby support and strengthen my Administration generally.

"From my own personal experience and the past traditions of the State and its people I knew that I could count on the loyalty and good-will of all classes of my people. but the many demonstrations and proofs in the past few days not only of loyalty but, I hope I may say, of *enthusiastic good-will towards me and the Members of my Family* have surpassed all my expectations. I need hardly say how deeply touched and gratified I am and how gratefully I appreciate them.

"My original intention was to have the proper State celebrations in November at a better season of the year, and to confine the celebrations on the actual anniversary of my accession to religious functions in addition to this one grand Durbar; but here again the loyalty of the various classes and communities has been instrumental in making the September festivities almost as varied and numerous as those fixed for November—the difference being that the September programme consists chiefly of entertainments and events organized by the general public, whilst the November celebrations will be those organized almost entirely by the State.

"I am sure every one of my subjects appreciates with me the honour which His Excellency the Viceroy is doing us in paying my capital a visit from the 25th of November to the 2nd of December to grace the State celebrations which will then take place. That all classes and communities of my people will join me in extending a most hearty welcome to Lord and Lady Hardinge I am certain. We shall welcome His Excellency not only as the distinguished representative of our illustrious and beloved Emperor but also as one who, as Viceroy, has shown, in many ways, that he is a friend of the Ruling Chiefs and a well-wisher of the States and, above all that, as an Administrator, he is in true sympathy with India and the Indians.

"In conclusion, Colonel Windham, I am going to entrust you with a special commission, if you will be so kind as to carry it out. Although the loyalty of my House in the past as well as during my own time is, I hope, too well-known to require any further words from me on this occasion, I do not think I should let this opportunity go by without my asking you to send to His Excellency the Viceroy for favour of communication to His Imperial Majesty the King Emperor respectful messages of our loyalty and devotion to His Imperial Majesty's Throne and Person. I would beg you to say that not only I and my Family, and not only every one of my Rathors and other Rajputs in this State, but every man here, is inspired with feelings of the deepest and most unflinching loyalty to the British Throne, and that our swords are always at His Majesty's command. We all pray for the long life and prosperity and every happiness of their Imperial Majesties the King Emperor and the Queen Empress and we all devoutly hope that there are many years still in store of the already brilliant reign which His Majesty has so auspiciously commenced."

12. The Boons and Reliefs which His Highness was graciously pleased to confer on the various classes and communities of the State in honour of the occasion were next announced. They included:—

- (1) The establishment of a Representative Assembly partly *ex-officio* and nominated and partly chosen by a limited electorate.
- (2) Grant of increased powers to Municipal Boards in the management of local affairs.
- (3) The establishment of Panchayats in selected villages empowered to arbitrate in petty civil cases and to report on matters of importance within their boundaries.

- (4) Introduction of Hindi as the court language of the State.
- (5) The total abolition of import and export and transit duties on grain.
- (6) Extension of medical relief to the people by the establishment of new dispensaries, a Zenana Hospital at the capital and the installation of an X Ray apparatus.
- (7) A cash bonus to the non-commissioned officers and men of all the Regiments of the State forces and an increment in pay to some of them.
- (8) The grant of increased facilities for education: the raising of the High School to the status of a College and the provision of hostels for the comfort and convenience of students.
- (9) Improvements in the conditions of service for civil employes.
- (10) The grant of domiciliary rights to foreigners residing in the State.

13. There was also a large distribution of local honours and titles, and other distinctions, the more important of which being the title of *Raja* conferred on Rao Bahadur Thakur Hari Singh of Mahajan and Thakur Jeoraj Singh of Reri and of Rao on Thakur Kan Singh of Bhukarka.

14. At noon alms were distributed to the poor and the sick, and sweetmeats to the school children. In the afternoon His Highness received addresses of congratulation from the sardars, the officials and various communities and societies. These are given *in extenso* in Appendix XIII. All gratefully acknowledged the blessings of good government enjoyed by them under His Highness's administration and referred in terms of appreciation to the various improvements and reforms that had been introduced.

15. Later on, towards the evening, the various religious communities formed processions and went to their respective places of worship to offer prayers for His Highness's long life and health. At night the whole city was splendidly illuminated.

16. On the following day, His Highness paid a visit in the morning to the temple of Sri Karniji, the patron saint of the Rathore Rajputs, at Deshnoke. In the evening of the same day was held the ceremony of opening the new Dungar College building and the distribution of prizes to the students. The College was named after His late Highness Maharajah Sri Dungar Singhji Bahadur to whom His Highness the Maharajah paid a warm tribute on this occasion.

17. At night a state banquet and a bioscope exhibition were held in the Fort.

18. On the 26th, the Sardars of the State entertained His Highness, the Maharaj Kumar Sahib and the principal officers of the State at a gymkhana.

19. On the 27th September took place the prize distribution at the Walter Nobles' School, followed by Polo in the evening.

20. On the 28th the European residents of Bikaner entertained His Highness at a banquet at the Victoria Memorial Club. Lt.-Col. E. St. A. Wake, on behalf of the European community, offered congratulations and good wishes to His Highness the Maharajah, "not as sons of the soil yet as those who had eaten his salt." His Highness in reply acknowledged the whole-hearted devotion to duty displayed by the British officers in his service, and briefly touched on the many points in common between the Englishman and the Rajput.

21. The celebrations were brought to a close on the 28th September, but the memory of the festivities and the boons, the bounty and the benevolence which marked them will last for very long in the hearts and minds of the people of the State.

22. Another noteworthy event during the year was the adoption on the 9th February 1912 of Maharaj Kumar Sri Bijey Singhji Bahadur, His Highness's younger son, in the name and family of the late Maharaj Sri Lall Singhji Bahadur. A Durbar was held on that day in the Ganga Niwas Durbar Hall at which His Highness the Maharajah in the presence of the Resident, and the Maharaj Kumar Sri Sadul Singhji Bahadur, the Heir-Apparent, tied the customary 'Pag' (turban) and handed over the sword of the late Maharaj Sahib to Maharaj Sri Bijey Singhji Bahadur, as he was now called, and announced the grant of a jagir to him.

23. *Mahkma Khas*.—Maharaj Sri Bhairun Singh Bahadur, C.S.I., Senior and Foreign Member, was appointed Vice-President of the State Council, as a personal office, with effect from the 24th September 1912, the post of Senior Member being held in abeyance for the time being. The post of the Foreign Member will be held by him conjointly with that of the Vice-President.

24. The appointment of a Military Member of Council having been sanctioned, Lieut.-Col. Thakur Hari Singh of Sattasar, Secretary for the Military Department, was promoted to be the first Military Member of Council with effect from the 24th September 1912, and will also continue to discharge the duties of Military Secretary to His Highness.

25. Babu Behari Lall, B.A., Secretary to the Council, having been dismissed from the State service, Babu Nau Nihal Singh, B.A., was appointed to this office with effect from 10th October 1911.

26. *Chief Court*.—Babu Nihal Chandra, Chief Judge of the Chief Court, having been permitted to retire from the state service on account of continued ill-health, with effect from 13th August 1912, Munshi Kripa Shankara, Second Judge, was appointed Chief Judge and Babu Nihal Singh, Third Judge, was promoted to be Second Judge with effect from 28th August 1912, while Munshi Fateh Singh, Nazim of Sujangarh, was appointed Third Judge, *vice* Babu Nihal Singh.

27. *Household*.—Mr. Kaus Rustomji, M.A., who as Private Secretary to His Highness the Maharajah, supervised the managements of His Highness's Household, was permitted to retire from the state service; but this combination of duties having been found no longer practicable, a separate post of Comptroller of the Household was created. Subsequently the post of Assistant Comptroller of the Household was also created.

28. Mr. R. D. Cooper, formerly Private Secretary to His Highness the Maharajah, was appointed to be Comptroller of the Household with effect from 1st October 1911, and was also given a seat on the State Council as Additional Member; while Babu Shiva Govind Singh, who held the post of Assistant Private Secretary, was nominated Assistant Comptroller. Subsequently, on Mr. Cooper's proceeding on long leave, Rajkumar Bhairun Singh, Commandant of the Dungar Lancers and A.-D.-C. to His Highness, was appointed to succeed him as Comptroller of the Household with effect from 4th May 1912.

29. Mr. J. V. S. Wilkinson, I.C.S., Officiating Collector of Muttra, whose services were obtained from the Government of India, was appointed Private Secretary with effect from 12th November 1911, while Kanwar Gulab Singh of Boghera, Personal Assistant to the Private Secretary, was appointed Assistant Private Secretary.

30. *Accounts Department.*—Mr. A. G. Barr of the Finance Department of the Government of India, whose services were applied for as mentioned in the last year's Report, was appointed Accountant-General with effect from 9th October 1911.

31. *His Highness's Tours.*—On the 17th October 1911, His Highness proceeded to Delhi to attend the meetings of the Coronation Durbar Committee, returning on the 31st October 1911. His Highness again went to Delhi on the 16th November and stayed there till after the Durbar. On the 25th December His Highness proceeded to Calcutta to attend His Imperial Majesty as an A.-D.-C. He returned to Bikaner on the 28th January 1912.

32. On the 21st February 1912, His Highness journeyed to Ajmer to join the General Council Meeting of the Mayo College held there on the 22nd February 1912, and returned to Bikaner on the 23rd idem.

33. From the 7th to 13th July 1912, His Highness paid a private visit to Simla as a guest of His Excellency the Viceroy.

34. His Highness made the following tours in the State :—

From the 25th to 28th January 1912, in the Suratgarh Nizamats.

From the 3rd to 14th March 1912, in the Suratgarh, Reni and Sujangarh Nizamats.

35. *Sardars.*—The following Tazimi Pattedars died during the year :—

1. Thakur Bagh Singh, Pattedar of Simla, on the 4th October 1911.
2. Thakur Bagh Singh, Pattedar of Loha, on the 3rd January 1912.
3. Thakur Moti Singh, Pattedar of Khari, on the 13th January 1912.
4. Thakur Kishen Singh, Pattedar of Malsisar, on 31st March 1912.

Nos. 1 and 3 have been succeeded by their sons, Zorawar Singh and Ja-want Singh respectively; in respect of the rest of the Pattas the question of succession will be decided by the Durbar after the necessary formal enquiries into their cases have been completed.

36. *Distinguished Visitors.*—Visits were paid to the State by—

1. The Hon. Lt.-Col. Sir A. H. McMahon, G.C.V.O., K.C.I.E., C.S.I., Secretary to the Government of India in the Foreign Department, from 12th to 15th November 1911.
2. The Hon. Sir E. G. Colvin, K.C.S.I., the Agent to the Governor-General, on 28th and 29th January 1912. and again from 10th to 13th February 1912.
3. Major-General His Highness Maharajah Sir Pratap Singhji Bahadur, G.C.S.I., G.C.V.O., K.C.B., A.D.C., LL.D., Maharajah Regent of Jodhpur, from the 10th to 15th February 1912.
4. The Hon. Lt.-Col. W. G. R. Stratton, C.I.E., Officiating Agent to the Governor-General in Rajputana, from the 28th July to the 1st August 1912.

37. *Extradition.*—The relations of the Bikaner State with British Districts as well as with the Indian States in regard to the extradition of criminals continue to be cordial, and no case presenting any difficulty occurred during the year under report.

38. *Walterkrit Rajputra Hitkarini Sabha.*—473 marriages and 119 Osars were held among the Rajputs. In 412 marriages and 112 Osars the rules were duly observed, while they were infringed in 61 marriages and 7 Osars. Among the Charans 63 marriages and 6 Osars were performed, out of which in 12 marriages and 2 Osars an infringement of the rules took place. The infringements, where serious, were punished with fines, and where not so, due warnings were given. These results bear witness to the value of the Sabha.

CHAPTER II.

Judicial Department.

39. *Legislation.*—No new Act was passed or repealed during the year under report. The Bikaner Limitation Act and Court Fees Act of 1893 and 1900 respectively were slightly amended.

40. *Criminal Justice.*—The following statement shows the volume of work disposed of by the various Courts during the year under review :—

Serial No.	Name of Court.	Kind of cases.	Cases pending.	Cases instituted.	Total.	Cases disposed of.	Balance.
1	Chief Court...	Appellate ...	7	130	137	130	7
		Original ...	4	14	18	17	1
		Total ...	11	144	155	147	8
2	Nizamats ...	Appellate...	5	37	42	39	3
		Original ...	21	291	312	283	29
		Total ..	26	328	354	322	32
3	Asst. Nazim's Court ...	Original ...	6	73	79	69	10
4	Tehsils ...	Original ...	20	664	684	651	33
		Grand Total ...	63	1,209	1,272	1,189	83

41. The number of persons dealt with and disposed of by the Courts was 2,167 and 1,887 against 2,810 and 2,702, of the previous year respectively, giving a percentage of disposals of 87·08 against 95·80. *Vide* Appendix I.

42. *Criminal Appellate Work.*—As will be seen from Appendix II, there were 179 appeals in all for disposal, including 12 left pending last year, of which 169 were decided leaving 10 undisposed of at the end of the year against 222, 210 and 12 respectively of the previous year.

43. *Original Civil Work.*—The total number of original civil suits for disposal, including 232 left pending at the end of the last year, was 1,745, of which 1,558 were decided, leaving a balance of 187 pending against 2,862, 2,600 and 232 respectively of the preceding year.

44. The percentage of disposal was 89.28 against 91.89 of the last year :—

Serial No.	Name of Court.	Kind of cases.	Cases pend- ing.	Cases insti- tuted.	Total.	Cases dispo- sed of.	Balance.
1	Chief Court	Original	3	3	6	4	2
		Appeal	27	167	184	168	16
		Total	30	160	190	172	18
2	Nizamats	Original	68	132	200	144	56
		Appeal	81	166	197	158	39
		Total	99	298	397	302	95
3	Asst. Nazim's Court, Bikaner.	Original	53	419	472	422	50
4	Tehsils	Original	108	939	1,047	988	59
		Total	290	1,836	2,126	1,864	242

45. The average duration of original suits in all the Courts was 4 months 5 days as against 4 months and 7 days of the preceding year.

46. *Execution of Decrees.*—The number of applications for execution of decrees was 1,289, of which 1,075 were disposed of, leaving 214 pending against 2,045, 1,805 and 240 respectively of the previous year, *vide* Appendix VIII.

47. The percentage of disposal was 83.40 against 88.26 of the last year.

48. *Civil Appellate Work.*—The total number of appeals was 381, of which 326 were disposed of leaving 55 pending as against 564, 506 and 58 respectively of the last year, giving a percentage of disposal of 85.56 against 89.7 of the last year.

49. Of the 326 appeals decided, decrees were confirmed in 185, which gives a percentage of 56.75 against 57.29 of the preceding year.

50. The average duration was 1 month and 20 days as against 2 months and 16 days of the last year.

51. *Revenue Cases.*—The following table shows the work of the various Courts on the Revenue side :—

Serial No.	Name of Court.	Cases pending.	Cases insti- tuted.	Total.	Cases dispo- sed of.	Balance.	REMARKS.
1	Chief Court, Appellate side ...	4	13	17	13	4	The Chief Court does not decide original Revenue cases.
2	Nizamats—						
	Original	2	34	36	35	1	The Asst. Nazimat Court, Bikaner, has no Rev. jurisdiction.
	Appellate	6	70	76	64	12	
	Total	8	104	112	99	13	
3	Tehsils—						
	Original	18	122	140	124	16	
	Total	20	232	252	236	35	

CHAPTER III.

The Revenue Department.

52. In the latter half of the year the post of the fifth Member of the Board was combined with that of the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, and it was at first held by B. Hardwari Lal, a retired Deputy Collector of the United Provinces, for about 2 months, and later when he resigned for domestic reasons, by Babu Narain Prasad, a pensioned Tehsildar of the United Provinces, for about three months towards the end of the year, when he was appointed to be Nazim of Reni.

53. The number of meetings held by the Board during the year under report as compared with those in the last year is given below:—

Year.	Ordinary.	Special.	Total.
1911-12	55	19	74
1910-11	74	23	97

The number of cases dealt with by the Board during the year under report was 1,347 against 1,292 in the preceding year.

54. *Rainfall and Crops.*—The rainfall of the previous year (1910-11), which amounted only to 5.87 inches was deficient and much below the average. Consequently the condition of the crops was not good.

55. Fortunately the year under report was not so unfavourable. The rainfall as detailed in Appendix VI amounted to 10.66 inches only, slightly below the average of the last 5 years. Kharif sowings were made on a fairly large scale, and the harvest prospects, though here and there affected by the failure of rain in September, were good when the year closed.

56. *General Condition of the People.*—The general prosperity of the people and their power of resistance to unfavourable conditions had been largely increased by concessions and grants-in-aid made from time to time in the shape of Taccavi for the purchase of seed and agricultural stock and for sinking and constructing irrigation wells and also by substantial remissions of land revenue, so that the effects of the failure of the rains in the preceding year was not very marked.

57. The agricultural classes drew upon their reserves of grain and fodder while the labouring classes found, within easy reach, remunerative employment on State and private works in progress in towns or important villages, and, consequently, few cared to come to the test works.

58. The failure of the autumn rainfall in 1911, however, did lead to the necessity for preliminary arrangements to meet a possible scarcity. Constant reports were called for from the districts, but fortunately the situation did not develop. His Highness nevertheless decided to err rather on the side of

liberality than to allow any section of his people who might really stand in need of relief to go without it. Consequently test relief works were ordered to be started on the 15th November at the following centres within the State :—

1. Bikaner	...	...	...	} Bikaner District.
2. Gujner	...	...	...
3. Khari	...	...	...
4. Suratgarh	...	...	...	Suratgarh District.
5. Chhapar	...	...	...	Sujangarh „
6. Churu	...	...	...	Reni „

59. None of these works attracted any workers except at Chhapar where only 8 men and 5 women came. These were drafted to Bikaner to be employed on construction works then in progress, but they left soon afterwards, being professional mendicants and finding the labour incongenial. His Highness was therefore satisfied that the people were in a position to maintain themselves and the test works were closed.

60. *Grass and Fodder.*—The preceding rains being deficient, the produce of grass and fodder was poor. However, with the surplus stocks of the past years, or where none existed, by temporarily moving their cattle to the pasture grounds in adjoining tracts outside the State, the cultivators were able to tide over the difficulty. The scarcity was nowhere acute nor was there any abnormal mortality among the cattle.

61. *Cattle Pounds.*—The necessary details in connection with the grant of compensation to the Pattedars, referred to in the Report of 1909-10, have now been worked out and the question is under consideration of the Durbar.

62. *Jorh.*—Owing to the deficient rainfall of the year under report and the consequent dearth of green grass in the Jorh preserve the progress of the cattle farm was much retarded; some of the animals died for want of green pasturage although every possible care was taken to provide them with hay, grain, etc.

63. Arrangements were afterwards made to remove the animals to the Hanumangarh Bir, where there were ample supplies of grass and fodder.

64. The number of cows, bulls and bullocks at the end of the year was 95 and the number of mares in the stud including one stallion 15 as against 107 and 13 respectively in the last year.

LAND REVENUE.

65. The net demand and collections for the year under review are compared in the following table with those of the preceding year:—

District.	1910-11.			1911-12.		
	Demand.			Collections.		
	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.
Bikaner	1,42,273	14	5	1,27,406	13	0
Suratgarh	6,37,565	14	3	6,10,935	9	9
Sujangarh	1,49,925	5	3	1,42,441	4	0
Beni	3,53,148	4	3	2,95,319	11	0
Total	12,82,923	6	2	11,77,103	5	9

66. It would appear that the current demand for the year under report was less than that of the previous year by Rs. 1,05,731-13-2. This deficit may be accounted for as follows:—

- (1) Grant of Jagir of 65 Khalsa Villages to Maharaj Sri Bijoy Singhji Bahadur, second son of His Highness and adopted son of the late Maharaj Sri Lal Singhji Sahib Bahadur Rs. 52,973 11 6
- (2) Relinquishment of land by the cultivators at the close of the expiring Settlement and cultivation of a lesser area owing to deficient rainfall. 52,925 1 8

67. *Arrears of Land Revenue.*—Out of the current year's demand of Rs. 11,77,191-9-0, Rs. 10,02,365-3-2 was realized. The percentage of collections to the demand thus comes to 85.14 against 91.75 in the preceding year.

District.	Arrears at the close of 1910-11.			Arrears at the close of 1911-12.		
	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.
Bikaner... ..	58,675	12	2	59,536	4	7
Suratgarh	36,827	2	6	1,42,855	3	3
Sujangarh	30,023	15	9	32,321	7	6
Beni	2,07,474	0	9	2,13,977	15	6
Total	3,33,000	15	2	4,56,350	14	0

68. As indicated above the arrears of previous years at the commencement of the year amounted to Rs. 3,33,000-15-2, out of which Rs. 46,491-9-2 were collected and Rs. 4,984-13-0 written off, leaving Rs. 2,81,524-9-0 still outstanding at the close of the year under report.

69. The total demand for the year (current and arrears) amounted to Rs. 15,10,192-8-2, out of which Rs. 10,53,841-9-4 were recovered, leaving Rs. 4,56,350-14-10 outstanding when the year closed.

70. The percentage of total collections to the total demand was 69.78 against 78.94 of the previous year, or a fall of 9.16 per cent. in the collections, due entirely to deficient rainfall.

71. *Remissions.*—Arrears of land revenue outstanding against the Khalsa villages of the State for Samvat years 1958 to 1963 were remitted as a much-needed aid to the cultivators on the auspicious occasion of His Highness's Silver Jubilee in September 1912. The amounts thus remitted will be adjusted in the next year's account.

72. *Demand and Collections of Tibi Pargana.*—The demand and collections of this Pargana are included in the figures given for Suratgarh in para. 66. But the Land Revenue Settlement of the villages of this Pargana differs from the rest of the State, owing to the proprietary rights which here obtain. The demand and collections of Tibi are therefore shown separately, as below :—

DEMAND.			COLLECTIONS.			Arrears at the end of the year
Arrears.	Current.	Total.	Arrears.	Current.	Total.	
Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
271 2 0	24,102 6 6	24,373 8 6	160 3 0	23,442 2 0	23,602 5 0	771 3 6

The above table shows that there is no appreciable change in the figures to be accounted for.

73. *Transfer of Lands in the Tibi Pargana.*—In this Pargana the quantity of land transferred by the proprietors and occupancy tenants during the year under report was 62,702 bighas against 30,655 bighas during the preceding year, the increase being due to the larger number of new settlers who acquired land for agricultural purposes.

74. *Settlement.*—As mentioned in the last year's report, the assessment of the Jama. was provisionally announced, subject to His Highness's final sanction, but when the proposals came up for consideration, His Highness, being solicitous for the welfare of the ryots and in view of the importance of the colonization scheme for the northern portion of the State, decided to obtain special expert advice before passing final orders.

75. Arrangements were consequently made to secure the services of an experienced officer, and with the generous assistance of the Government of India and the Punjab Government, those of Mr. G. D. Rudkin, I.C.S., were obtained, and will, it is hoped, be of much practical value to the Durbar in remodelling the whole Revenue system and passing final orders on certain difficult and complex questions now pending.

76. The expenditure incurred on settlement work during the year under report was Rs. 8,666-3-3 against Rs. 31,982-13-6 of the previous year.

77. *Extent of Nautor Land*.—During the year under report 65,637 bighas and 13 biswas of unoccupied waste land were taken up for cultivation as against 95,489 bighas and 4 biswas in the preceding year. The decrease was partly due to the deficient rainfall, but also to the fact that in the Suratgarh district extensive areas of unoccupied waste had already been allotted at the time when the new assessment of rates was provisionally announced. This question along with other settlement problems is under consideration.

78. *Acquisition of Land*.—During the year under report 6,581 square yards of land was acquired for public purposes in the Bikaner City under the Land Acquisition Act, for which adequate compensation, amounting to Rs. 8,852-14-3, was paid to the owners concerned.

79. *Taccavi*.—Liberal provision is annually made in the budget for taccavi advances, both for the purchase of seed and agricultural stock and for sinking irrigation wells. The time for the distribution of the Taccavi advances is ordinarily from June to August. As the deficient rainfall in the previous year retarded the sowing operations, Rs. 418 only was distributed in that year. As, however, the rains were more favourable during the year under report (1911-12), the sum distributed was much higher. It was as follows:—

						Rs.	a.	p.
For the purchase of seed grains and bullocks	...	...	...	...	...	24,883	0	0
For the purchase of camels	...	...	...	...	...	3,797	0	0

80. *Patwaris and Kanungos*.—No examination for Patwaris was held during the year under report. The question of increasing the scope and efficiency of the Patwar school and of strengthening the supervising staff, which was taken up with the recent settlement proposals, is under consideration and will be dealt with in the next year's report.

81. *Emigration*.—Agriculturists, who have relatives in the adjacent tracts of the Punjab or Bahawalpur territory, generally go to these tracts in the months preceding the monsoon, as during the spring they find labour in the fields there more remunerative and pasture grounds for their cattle better. Except for his annual exodus, which is independent of the agricultural prospects, no emigration was reported.

82. *Immigration*.—469 families of new settlers were reported to have established themselves within the State, while 11 families with 1,073 cattle returned after an absence of some years from their homes.

83. *Income from the Sale of Nazul Lands and Houses.*—Sale proceeds of Nazul lands and houses during the year under report, as compared with the previous year, are shown below :—

		1911-12			1910-11		
		Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.
1.	Bikaner City ...	32,169	10	9	23,208	1	3
2.	Within the new city wall	30,768	13	6	11,708	14	3
3.	Districts ...	87,956	3	3	51,199	12	0
		1,50,894	11	6	86,116	11	6

There is thus an increase of Rs. 64,778 under this head, indicating a rise in the purchasing power of the people, mostly of the trading classes.

VILLAGES GRANTED.

84. A Jagir consisting of 62 villages was granted during the year to Maharaj Sri Bijoy Singhji Bahadur.

Village Hoshangsar.—One-sixth share resumed on the death of the Mukhia under the rules for Huzuri villages was regranted to his heirs.

Village Lohia.—One-third portion was granted afresh to Satidan and graded as a Huzuri village.

Khetolai.—One-fourth portion regranted to the heirs of Megh Singh, deceased Mukhia in lieu of their services at the Zenani Deodhi and classified as a Huzuri village.

CUSTOMS AND EXCISE DEPARTMENT.

85. The charge of the department was held throughout the year by Babu Sheo Ghulam, Inspector-General of Customs and Excise.

86. In addition to Customs and Excise this department deals with :—

1. Salt.
2. Saltpetre.
3. Royalties on stone.
4. Royalties on Multani Mitti (Fuller's earth).
5. The cess on ghee.
6. The export duty on cows.

The realizations on account of Nos. 3 and 4 are transferred to the Mineral Department and dealt with under that head, and No. 5, which is a conservancy cess, goes to the Municipalities concerned. Collections under head No. 6, are utilized for improving the breed of cattle and held as a separate fund.

87. *Customs.*—The figures for the gross receipts and expenditure for the year under report as well as those for the previous year are given below :—

1911-12.			1910-11.		
Receipts.		Expenditure.	Receipts.		Expenditure.
Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.
10,63,463	6	6	59,105	12	0
			11,41,019	14	0
			58,635	3	3

88. The customs revenue thus fell below that of the previous year by Rs. 77,556-7-6. This was chiefly due to the failure of Rabi crops in the Suratgarh Nizamat, which caused a heavy decrease in the income derived from export duties on oil-seeds and grains alone. The expenditure exceeded that of the previous year by Rs. 470-8-9 but was within the budget allotment. The ratio of cost to revenue was 5·54 against 5·13 for the foregoing year.

89. The new Customs Act and Manual together with the revised Tariff sanctioned by the Durbar in the last year were brought into force at the commencement of the year and have proved very advantageous. While on the one hand, the abolition or reduction of duty on several articles of usefulness to the public has been welcomed by traders and by the people in general, on the other hand, the marked increase of Rs. 1,22,412, in the total receipts of the year has amply compensated for the loss suffered from the failure of oil-seeds and grain crops in the northern districts.

90. Under this head, mention may be made of the important changes in the Customs Tariff ordered with effect from the 1st October 1912, but announced during the year under report on 24th September 1912, in connection with the auspicious occasion of His Highness's Jubilee and detailed in the following extract from the Bikaner Rajpatra.

" Customs duty on the import, export, and transit of grain has been levied in the State for a long time, and the present scale was introduced in 1898 during the administration of the Council of Regency. The highest total income from import in one year amounted to Rs. 1,07,503 and from export to Rs. 1,24,035 while the average total collections under both the heads taken together for the last three years come to Rs. 1,06,880. His Highness, however, considering that in years of plenty these duties tend to restrict trade and in years of draught to increase the sufferings of his people, is pleased to direct that all duties on grain, import, export and transit, be totally abolished with effect from the 1st October 1912.

For the further ease of his people, especially of the mercantile community, His Highness is pleased to sanction the following changes in the Customs Tariff:—

Abolition of Customs duty on:—

- (a) Jewellery whether imported for sale or private use.
- (b) Gold and silver ornaments intended for private use.
- (c) All sewn cloths imported as personal effects.
- (d) Reduction of Customs duty on copper from Rs. 3 to Rs. 2-4-0 per maund.
- (e) Reduction of royalty on Dulmera stone from Rs. 25 to Rs. 2 per wagon, and the removal of restrictions of free sale with certain safe-guards to provide for State requirements."

91. *Salt*.—The income under this head comprises:—

- (a) The amount received from the Imperial Government under the Salt agreement.
- (b) Profits on the sale of salt manufactured at Lunkaransar.

The receipts under head (a) are Rs. 16,000 and show no variation, but under (b) there is a slight increase of Rs. 179-10-0, the total income in the year under report being Rs. 27,497-8-0 against Rs. 27,317-14-0 in the year preceding.

92. Particulars as to the quantity of Salt manufactured and sold and the balance in stock at Lunkaransar for the year under report are given below :—

	Mds.	Seers.	
Opening balance in stock... ..	18,913	20	(estimated.)
Quantity manufactured	18,830	0	(do.)
Total quantity for sale	37,743	20	(do.)
Quantity sold during the year	15,330	0	(by actual weighment.)
Balance at the close of the year	22,413	20	

93. As mentioned in the report for the year 1907-08, a representation was made to the Government of India for a revision of the Salt Agreement on account of the considerable loss suffered by the Dumar in consequence of the reduction of the duty on salt. The matter is still the subject of correspondence, but from the sense of justice of the Government of India a decision favourable to the State is confidently hoped for.

94. *Opium*.—The revenue under opium comprises :—

- (1) Import duty.
- (2) License fee.

95. Till the end of the previous year, which was marked by the introduction of certain reforms in excise, the import duty on opium was included in the Customs Revenue and levied at Rs. 205 per maund, the rates for license fees being Rs. 2 for the wholesale and Re. 1 for the retail vend, respectively. Importation of opium and its sale for consumption within the State was free on payment of the prescribed customs duty and license fee. As in the case of country liquor dealt with during the previous year, the introduction of a change in the arrangements regulating the supply and sale of opium was recommended by Mr. J. H. Cox, C.I.E., I.C.S., and the replacement of the old arrangements by a contract system similar to that in force in certain other States was decided upon.

96. The contract for the supply and sale of opium was therefore on certain conditions given to Messrs. Gulab Singh and Khia Singh of Shikarpur, Sindh, and to Roshan Das of Bhawalpur for three years on payment of Rs. 81,500. The contract came into force just as the year commenced. Before three months were over however, complaints became general regarding the quality of the opium supplied and the contract was therefore cancelled.

97. Owing to general dissatisfaction with the new system, the old one was reverted to with enhanced customs duty to compensate for the loss entailed by the change.

98. The total income under opium as compared with the previous year is shown below :—

Year.			Customs duty.			License fee			Total.		
			Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.
1911-12	...	...	41,157	4	9	7,464	11	3	48,602	0	6
1910-11	...	...	51,898	1	3	372	0	0	52,270	1	5

99. The customs duty collections fell short during the year under report by Rs. 10,760-12-6. This was due to the fact that in the preceding year opium was imported in large quantities by the dealers in anticipation of the revision of the tariff. The amount under license fee includes contract money (for 3 months Rs. 6,937-11-9). The total income during the year was less than that in the previous year by Rs. 3,668-0-11.

EXCISE.

100. *Abkari*, i. e., *country liquor*.—The altered arrangements, described in the previous year's report, under which local distillation was stopped and supply of liquor was taken over as a State monopoly have worked smoothly since their introduction in January 1911.

101. The financial results of the new system are tabulated below :—

Period.	Quantity sold in gallons (L. P.)	Net profit including License fee.
		Rs. a. p.
January to September 1911, (9 months) ...	16,099-53	31,652 2 0
October 1911 to September 1912 	22,033-60	43,114 1 7

102. The net income as shown above is rising steadily owing to a better check on illicit distillation and better control of the supplies. Compared with the average income for the last 10 years under the old system there is an increase of Rs. 31,217.

103. The total income from Excise during the year under report was Rs. 48,114-4-7 against Rs. 43,344-12-3 in the previous year *. But against the profits of the year under report there was a set off of Rs. 5,000 allowed to the outgoing contractor Khan Bahadur Framji N. Suntuk, as compensation for the unexpired term of his contract.

104. The number of liquor shops open at the close of the previous year was 58, while at the end of the year under report it stood at 60, a number which meets all the present needs of the people.

105. 14 offences, viz., 12 of illicit import of liquor and 2 of illicit import of opium, against the Excise Law were reported in the year under report against 8 in previous year, and 5 cases were pending decision when the year commenced. Conviction was obtained in 9 cases. One was dismissed and 9 remained pending at the close of the year.

106. The success of the new excise arrangements however has not been as complete as it might have been owing to the illicit import of considerable quantities of liquor from places situated beyond the Eastern border of Jaipur and Jodhpur. The supervising staff finds considerable difficulty in bringing such smuggling to light, owing to the peculiar physical conditions of the country and the habits of the people on either side of the border. If an understand-

* The past year's receipts, it may be added, included income for 3 months under the old system and for 9 months under the new system which commenced on 1st January of that year, so no exact comparison can be made.

ing could be arrived at with the States mentioned, securing a uniformity of system in the sale and manufacture of liquor within the specified zone, it would undoubtedly be to the mutual advantage of the States concerned.

107. *Hemp drugs*.—The contract for the sale of Ganja, Bhang and Charas for 3 years, with effect from October 1911 to September 1914, was given to Messrs. Gulab Singh and Khia Singh of Shikarpur, Sindh, and to Roshan Das of Bhawalpur State for Rs. 21,300. The contract money for the year under report came to Rs. 7,100 and was realized in full. This, with Rs. 17-6-9 recovered on account of the previous year's arrears, brings the total income under hemp drugs to Rs. 7,117-6-9, the average of last three years under this head being Rs. 7,224-1-0.

108. The failure to effect a rise in the value of this contract is due to lack of competition.

109. The number of hemp drug shops open during the year was 16 against 15 in the last year.

110. *Saltpetre*.—The saltpetre works were put under the control of the Customs Department in 1910. Since then endeavours have been made by advertising in the newspapers and otherwise to attract contractors, but owing perhaps to the peculiar climatic conditions of the country, no contractors have yet come from outside the State. The industry has for long been practically monopolised by two local contractors who belong to the same family; and in the absence of competition they would naturally not raise their bids. For these reasons the old contract system was abolished and was replaced by a free license system with enhanced duty on refined saltpetre and a guarantee for a fixed maximum of yearly export. The measure was given effect to tentatively from the commencement of the year under report and the financial results as compared with the previous year are shown below :—

Year.	Quantity exported.	Contract money.	Collection of customs duty.	Total.
1911-12	Mds. 4,869 Srs. 13 chh. 6	.....	Rs. a. p. 7,259 0 0	Rs. a. p. 7,259 0 0
1910-11	„ 5,015 „ 2 „ 8	Rs. 3,849	1,253 12 3	5,102 12 3

There was thus an increase of Rs. 2,156-3-9 in the Customs Duty.

111. The quantity of crude and refined saltpetre manufactured during the year under report as compared with the last year is shown below :—

District.	1911-12.				1910-1911.	
	Crude.		Refined.		Crude.	Refined.
	Mds.	Srs.	Mds.	Srs.	Mds.	Mds.
Suratgarh	7,177	5	2,738	35	6,800	3,000
Kani	3,120	0	1,408	0	1,543	1,020

COURT OF WARDS.

112. The year opened with 67 estates under the supervision of the Court of Wards, out of which 4 were released during the year and 8 new estates were taken under management, so that there were 71 estates under this department at the close of the year.

113. Of these 71 estates, 40 belong to minors, 26 to incapables, whilst 5 are under control for want of direct heirs.

114. Classified according to their rank, the wards comprise 34 Tazimis and 32 non-Tazimis. The principal Tazimis are :—

1. Rawat Man Singh of Rawatsar.
2. Thakur Hir Singh of Eidasar.
3. „ Govind Singh of Bai.
4. „ Ram Singh of Gopalpura.
5. „ Sheoji Singh of Ajitpura.
6. „ Ganpat Singh of Kharbara.
7. „ Daulat Singh of Kumbhana.
8. „ Megh Singh of Dadreva.
9. „ Kishen Singh of Malsisar.
10. „ Sheodan Singh of Gharsisar.

115. *Education of Wards.*—Maharaj Sri Jagmal Singh Deodhiwala Rajvi having finished his education was allowed to withdraw from the Mayo College, and as he had attained his majority, his estate was released from the management of the Court of Wards.

116. At the close of the year 14 wards were receiving education, of whom five, viz:—

1. Rawat Man Singh of Rawatsar.
2. Thakur Sheodan Singh of Gharsisar.
3. „ Daulat Singh of Kumbhana.
4. Kanwar Rup Singh of Bai with
5. Thakur Bhairun Singh of Bilu.

are studying at the Mayo College and the remaining 9 at the Walter Nobles' School, Bikaner.

117. The demand and collections of Land Revenue of all the estates for the year under review are given in the subjoined table:—

Demand.			Collections.				Arrears.
Arrears.	Demand for the year under report.	Total.	Arrears.	Demand.	Transferred to Patlas released.	Total.	
Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
2,04,132 12 6	1,15,724 13 9	3,20,857 12 9	5,735 4 6	57,273 4 6	1,092 5 0	1,07,191 9	6,32,752 12 3

118. The gross receipts of the year are contrasted below with those of the previous year :—

RECEIPTS.					Rs.	a.	p.
Present year (1911-12)	...	...	...	...	1,36,248	11	5
Previous year (1910-11)	...	...	...	...	1,76,291	13	9
Decrease	...	..	...	...	40,043	2	4

119. The comparative gross expenditure is :—

					Rs.	a.	p.
Present year (1911-12)	...	...	...	...	1,55,913	3	8
Previous year (1910-11)	...	...	...	...	1,82,603	8	6
Decrease	...	...	...	...	26,690	4	10

120. The reduction of expenditure has thus been concomitant with the fall of receipts.

121. The details of the gross expenditure incurred are :—

					Rs.	a.	p.
Maintenance and other expenses of the wards	...			...	73,040	15	0
Payment of State tribute	...	...	...	...	58,949	11	9
Succession fee	...	...	...	...	472	11	0
Management charges	...	...	...	...	10,242	0	9
Savings transferred to other Pattas	...	...	...	...	8,135	3	4

122. The opening balance of the estates under control amounted to Rs. 57,112-12-10 and the closing balance to Rs. 37,448-4-7. The many voluntary applications which are from time to time received for estates to be taken under management testify to growing confidence in the administration of the Court of Wards. The Durbar now contemplate a further improvement in the working of the Court by the issue of detailed rules.

MUNICIPALITIES.

123. The number of Municipalities within the State remained unchanged, but their working shows considerable improvement.

124. The Municipal Board of Bikaner was presided over by Lt.-Col. E. St. A. Wake, tutor and guardian to the Maharaj Kumar Sahib, except for about four months, during which he was with His Highness first at Delhi and second at Abu. In these intervals the Board was presided over respectively by the officiating Tehsildar of Bikaner and the Nazim of Bikaner. In the Districts, Municipal work was controlled by the Tehsildars, the *ex-officio* Presidents of the Municipalities within their respective jurisdictions.

125. At Bikaner both the city and outside various measure of local utility and interest were undertaken particularly in view of the Silver Jubilee. The roads were repaired and extended, lanes and streets were widened and old and ugly looking houses along the main thoroughfares improved. Oil lamps were replaced by electric light. Sanitation was carefully attended to and additional conservancy appliances arranged for.

126. Among the improvements, the most prominent was the opening of the King Edward Memorial Road, with a new Bazar on the main approach from the Fort to the city, the most frequented of all the local thoroughfares. This was realigned and widened, and paved with footpaths on either side. Alongside this road as well as in the open spaces near the railway station and the new Customs and Excise offices and the main city gate, shops of stone of picturesque and effective design have been built to replace the old, dilapidated and misshaped habitations that previously existed there.

127. Another measure of importance also undertaken by Lt.-Col. Wake was the registering of the houses within the Municipality and affixing number plates.

128. The income during the year amounted to Rs. 7,036-4-9 as against Rs. 12,572-9-9 in the previous year. The reason of this decrease was a fall in the collections of the cess on ghee.

129. The total expenditure during the year was Rs. 33,270-5-6 as against Rs. 28,470-14-6 of the preceding year. The excess in expenditure was mainly due to the high prices of fodder and also to the purchase of new latrines and repairs to old ones.

130. The total revenue of the District Municipalities amounted to Rs. 16,768-12-0 and the expenditure to Rs. 9,992-7-3, all being self-supporting.

131. *Irrigation Wells.*—During the year under report 210 kutecha and 4 pucca wells for irrigation purposes, at a cost of Rs. 7,833-8-0, were constructed by the public. The total number of wells constructed up to the end of the year was 823, at a cost of Rs. 26,264-8-0. Out of these 823 wells, 820 have been completed and 3 are still under construction.

132. No fresh taccavi grants were applied for by the public during the year.

133. One well for which a grant was made in the previous year was completed within the year leaving two others under construction and one not yet commenced.

FORESTS.

134. Owing to the peculiar physical features of the State, schemes for afforestation in Bikaner are beset with many difficulties, and the suggestions made by the expert, Rai Bahadur Sadhu Singh, who was engaged temporarily, are still under consideration.

135. Preservation and planting of trees, however, continues to receive due attention. 847 new trees were planted during the year under report, for which suitable rewards were paid.

TRADE AND INDUSTRY.

136. During the year under report, there was a decline in imports and exports alike, due to the unfavourable seasons.

137. Improved railway communications and the recent tariff reforms, however, have much facilitated trade, and there are unmistakable signs of steady progress and activity.

138. The local industries of sugarcandy, blanket manufacture, leather and ivory work and sculpture, limited though their scope is, continued to thrive as before, while the jail manufactory retains its reputation for the manufacture of carpets.

139. So far no woollen or other factory has been started, though the question has been under consideration.

140. One or two small flour mills, worked by oil or electric power, have been established at the capital.

141. The working of the scheme for the improvement of sheep and cattle continues to receive due attention. The stock of sheep and rams of the mixed Merino breed was 203 at the commencement of the year, 49 lambs were born during the year, bringing the total to 218 at the close of the year, as detailed below :—

		Rams.	Ewes.	Lambs.	Total.
Resembling the Australian rams	...	36	20	14	70
Resembling the local rams	... ..	80	33	35	148

Out of the 52 bulls purchased from outside for improving the breed of cattle, 6 died during the year and 4 were missing, leaving 47 at the close of the year. 360 calves of the breed of these bulls were born during the year under report, of which 84 died, leaving 276 at the end of the year.

POST OFFICE.

142. In the year 1904 when the Durbar agreed to the opening of post offices in the State by the Imperial Postal Department, one of the stipulations made was that the official correspondence of this State should be carried free of charge. For this purpose a free grant of Service postage stamps of the value of Rs. 14,000 a year, subject to revision, was fixed. Experience gained during the 8 years that have elapsed since the introduction of the Postal Unity Scheme has proved that the fixed supply of stamps has generally been inadequate, and that extra expenditure has had to be incurred and inconvenience felt by the various departments whenever the supply of stamps was exhausted or not received in time. The utmost economy and care is exercised in the use of Service stamps but the fact remains that the quantity of stamps that was fixed provisionally is short of actual requirements. It is hoped that due consideration will be shown by the Government of India to the Durbar's representation already made on the subject.

143. The number of British post offices open in the State at the close of the year under report was 23 against 24 of the last year, the one at Jhajhu being closed as it was not self-supporting.

STAMPS.

144. The income derived from the sale of stamps during the year under report was Rs. 42,020-14-3 against Rs. 48,027-13-0 during the preceding year. There was a decrease of Rs. 6,006-14-9 as compared with the year before, due to slackness of trade.

145. The manufacture, supply and sale of stamps are under the control of the Accountant General's Department, while the general working of the Stamp Act and other such matters are supervised by the Revenue Board.

146. The Stamp Bill revised last year is under consideration and will be passed in due course.

REGISTRATION.

147. The number of documents received for registration, their detailed classification and aggregate values, the gross receipts from registration and the incidental expenses during the year 1910-11 and 1911-12, are shown in Appendix IX. The number remained almost stationary, there being an increase of only one document in the present year. Mortgage and sale-deeds preponderate as usual. The aggregate value of all kinds of property registered fell from Rs. 15,26,329 to Rs. 12,46,650-10-0. This, however, did not make much difference in the amount of registration fees realized, the total realizations during the year coming to Rs. 4,598-14-0 against Rs. 4,464-4-6 of the year before.

148. In addition to this, the income on account of fees for mutual purchase and sale of habitable lands and houses and on adoption and heirship certificates amounted to Rs. 1,07,167-10-6 against Rs. 1,28,590-7-0. Under these last sub-heads there is a decrease of Rs. 21,422-12-6. Thus the total receipts under the head "*Registration*" were Rs. 1,11,766-8-0 against Rs. 1,33,054-11-6 of the preceding year.

CHAPTER IV.

The Finance Department.

149. Appendix VIII shows the total receipts and expenditure of the State during the year under report.

150. The total receipts for the year amounted to Rs. 45,86,613 and the total expenditure to Rs. 45,26,920.

151. The following heads of receipts and expenditure call for comment :—

RECEIPTS.

Heads.	Estimate.			Actuals.		
	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.
(a) Land Revenue	12,46,000	0	0	10,36,468	0	0
(b) Irrigation	6,000	0	0	1,804	0	0
(c) Customs	11,62,700	0	0	10,56,924	0	0
(d) Excise... ..	74,000	0	0	57,696	0	0
(e) Minerals	69,500	0	0	79,888	0	0
(f) Saltpetro	4,000	0	0	56	0	0
(g) Law and Justice	1,58,000	0	0	1,18,993	0	0
(h) Registration	96,000	0	0	1,36,726	0	0
(i) Railway and Telegraph	13,50,000	0	0	17,01,336	0	0
(j) Sale of State land and houses... ..	75,000	0	0	1,59,070	0	0
(k) Printing Press... ..	11,000	0	0	17,691	0	0
(l) Jail	7,500	0	0	7	0	0

EXPENDITURE.

(m) Karkhanas	1,75,119	0	0	1,91,186	0	0
(n) Mechanical Dept.	1,57,699	0	0	1,53,040	0	0
(o) Compensation	39,438	0	0	48,397	0	0

The decrease in heads (a) Land Revenue, (b) Irrigation, (c) Customs, (g) Law and Justice is directly traceable to scanty rain. In the case of Law and Justice a poor harvest means shortage of money and consequently postponement of litigation.

The failure of the Opium contract explains the shortage under the head (d) Excise: The increase against the head (e) Minerals is due to the large demand for stone during the year. It may be noted that the stone duty has been very much reduced, a measure which, in the long run, will probably benefit the State.

The decrease against the head (f) Saltpetre is due to the discontinuance of the Saltpetre contract and the substitution of a Customs duty. The increase against (h) Registration is chiefly traceable to an abnormal number of sales of houses, land, etc. This, in its turn, may have been due to the year having been one of many marriages among the Brahmans, who probably had to sell their investments for the sake of ready money.

(i) Railway and Telegraph: An increase of over 3½ lakhs in the original budget estimate is noticeable. It is believed that the year was a very good one for trade. Scarcity also may have stimulated traffic.

(j) Sale of State lands and houses: The figure is much above the estimate. It is really higher even than it appears as all the receipts for the King Edward Memorial Scheme have been kept apart and will be shown in the following year's accounts. The receipts have gone up steadily for the past three years under this head.

(k) Printing Press: The excess over the estimate is due only to the fact that the figures include the preceding year's accounts.

(l) Jail: Owing to a large stock of goods manufactured elsewhere having been purchased and remained unsold, the jail factory shows no profit.

(m) Karkhanas: The increased expenditure was due to the dearness of fodder, grain, etc., during the year.

(n) Mechanical Department: Of the excess of Rs. 25,341, Rs. 6,400 is covered by re-appropriation from a P. W. D. grant Rs. 6,200, old paid bills that were outstanding were brought into account; Rs. 5,000, old motor car bills, in excess of what was provided for this purpose, were paid. There was also an item of Rs. 6,824 paid to Messrs. Biddulph, Rawlins & Co. on account of motor cars.

(o) Compensation: The increased expenditure is chiefly due to the payment of Customs compensation to the estate of Maharaj Sri Bijay Singhji Bahadur, which was not provided for in the Budget.

EXTRAORDINARY EXPENDITURE.

152. *Railway Construction*.—Rs. 6,22,222 have been charged against the budget allotment of Rs. 12,12,644, while Rs. 2,07,990, though expended, remains in "Suspense."

Delhi Durbar.—Rs. 2,50,000 were provided for the Delhi Durbar expenses against which Rs. 2,28,331 were charged during the year.

His Highness's Silver Jubilee Celebrations.—Rs. 89,034 were charged against the allotment Rs. 1,50,000 made in the year under report.

Repayment of Loans.—The instalment of Rs. 1,00,000, due on account of Railway loan, had to be postponed, though the interest due was paid.

153. *Treasure Trove.*—177 copper coins were found in a field at Churu. These coins as deciphered by the Archæological Department were issued by Husenshah, son of Mohammedshah of the Sharqi Dynasty of Jaunpur, who reigned from 1458 to 1480.

CHAPTER V.

Public Works Department.

RAILWAYS AND TELEGRAPH.

154. The following table gives the necessary information in connection with the State Railway:—

Particulars.	Official Railway figures.
	Rs.
Total number of miles open 385.40.	
<i>Capital Expenditure—</i>	
A. During the year:—	
Open line including suspense	1,15,496
Bikaner-Ratangarh Chord Line under construction including suspense	7,14,716
	8,30,212
B. From commencement of operations to end of the year:—	
Open line including suspense	88,09,403
Bikaner-Ratangarh Chord line under construction including suspense	16,77,385
	1,04,86,788
<i>Revenue—</i>	
Gross Receipts	16,06,776
Working Expenses	7,88,122
Net Receipts	8,18,654

155. *Capital.*—The principal items of capital expenditure were:—

	Rs.
Relaying the line between Bikaner and Hanumangarh ...	1,24,397
District Manager, Eastern District Office at Bikaner ...	1,038
Additions to Bikaner station	23,815
Building Officers' Carriages, &c	1,340
Relaying 3 miles south of Sarpana	15,880
Terminal for engines at Bikaner station	1,322
Guards' and Railway Vakil's quarters at Bikaner ...	2,865
Building	1,61,598
Supply for open line	26,617

156. *Revenue.*—The net earnings of Rs. 8,18,654 represent a return of 9.29 per cent. on capital cost. The working expenses were 49.05 per cent. of the gross earnings.

157. The results compare with the previous year as under :—

Particulars.	1911 12, Actuals.	1910 11, Actuals.
	Official Railway figures.	Official Railway figures.
Total number of miles open	385.40	385.40
Total capital outlay, including suspense from commencement of operations to end of the year :—	Rs.	Rs.
Open Line	88,09,103	59,25,620
Dehana-Hissar Railway	16,77,385	27,68,287
Bikaner-Ratangarh Chord Line under construction		9,62,669
	1,01,86,788	96,56,576
Gross Receipts	16,06,776	12,51,408
Working expenses	7,88,122	4,91,838
Net Receipts	8,18,654	7,62,570
Percentage of net earnings on capital	9.29	8.77
Percentage of working expenses on gross receipts	49.05	39.21

158. The increase of Rs. 3,52,368 in earnings was due to increased grain traffic and the development of traffic *via* Hissar.

159. The increase of Rs. 2,96,284 in working expenses is mainly due to Rs. 1,30,000 transferred to Sinking Fund (Rs. 1,20,000 for relaying Bikaner-Hanumangarh Section and Rs. 10,000 for relaying 3 miles south of Surpura) and to Rs. 13,618. the revenue share of the expenses for remodelling Bikaner Station. The remainder is due to the opening of the Churu-Hissar Section.

160. Among improvements may be mentioned that "Mixed" trains were fitted with electric press button communication between passengers and guards, and that the following Rolling Stock was added:—

Engines	5
Composite 1st & 2nd class carriages	1
Double second class carriages	2
Bogie 3rd class carriages	4
Brake-vans	4
Horse-box	1
Carriage truck	1
Running Water-tanks	2
C. G. wagons	7
Military type wagons	15

161. Mr. G. B. Warren, District Manager, Eastern District, was granted nine months' combined leave with effect from the 1st March 1912.

162. Seven months' combined leave was also granted to Mr. A. E. Jenkins, Loco. Carriage and Wagon Superintendent, with effect from 24th April 1912, when Mr. Stirling, Assistant Loco. Carriage and Wagon Superintendent, acted for him.

163. Two more engineer officers whose recruitment was sanctioned last year were enlisted, viz., Messrs. G. F. Evens and G. H. Rawlins, who took up their appointments towards the end of December 1911.

164. In consequence of the rapid growth of traffic due to the opening of the Degana-Hissar Railway and in view of the further stimulus which the opening of the Bikaner-Ratangarh chord line early next year is calculated to give, the existing complement of officers employed on the Railway was deemed inadequate, and the Jodhpur and Bikaner Durbars agreed to sanction the recruitment of two engineer officers from England in addition to those above mentioned.

165. On the opening of the Bikaner-Ratangarh Chord Line the total mileage of the Bikaner Railway will be 470·37 as follows :—

Sections.	Opened.	Miles.		Total mileage.
		Bikaner Territory.	British or Foreign Territory.	
Bikaner-Marwar Frontier	9th December 1891	47·60	.....	47·60
Bikaner-Bhatinda Section	9th September 1902	169·35	32·50	201·85
Sujangarh-Hissar Section	8th July 1911	105·59	30·26	135·85
Bikaner-Ratangarh Chord Line	Expected to be opened on or about 24th November 1912.	84·97	.....	84·97
	Total	407·51	62·76	470·27

* Length increased by 4·1 miles owing to the diversion recently made to carry the line through the Palana Colliery and D. Siroke—a place of pilgrimage.

166. The Durbar have in view several other schemes of extension, including one very important project, i.e., the line from Karachi to Delhi, which will be the shortest route to the Imperial Capital. This, it is hoped, will be taken up shortly.

ROADS AND BUILDINGS.

167. Pandit Ramchander Mehta, Assistant Engineer, remained in charge of the Department till the 16th October 1911 when he was dismissed from the service on account of certain irregularities. Thereafter Kanwar Mohan, Personal Assistant to the Public Works Member, carried on the routine work of the State Engineer pending the appointment of a successor.

168. Mr. C. J. Cunningham, Sub-Conductor (Overseer, 1st-grade), Bombay Presidency, whose services were secured from the Government of India, was appointed Assistant Engineer and took over charge from Kanwar Mohan Singh on 16th April 1912.

169. The services of Major W. A. Stokes, R.E., were then obtained on loan from the Government of India as State Engineer. He assumed charge of his office on 26th April 1912, but unfortunately about four months later he resigned on the ground of ill-health, and proceeded to England on medical leave. Mr. C. J. Cunningham, Assistant Engineer, was again put in charge of the Department with effect from 17th August 1912, pending the appointment of a permanent incumbent.

170. The total expenditure in this Department, including establishment charges but excluding those for Irrigation, amounted to Rs. 4,53,772-2-0 as against Rs. 3,52,404-10-8 of the last year and Rs. 5,15,428, the Budget allotment. Appendix X gives full details of the expenditure.

171. The cost of the works constructed from public subscriptions was Rs. 50,909-10-3 as shown in the Appendix, but this is not included in the total expenditure shown above nor in the Budget allotment.

172. It is much to be regretted that during the year the Department had to labour under many disadvantages. The posts of State Engineer and Assistant Engineer remained practically vacant for the greater part of the period, during which, on account of the Jubilee, many urgent and important works were in progress.

173. The following were the most important works completed during the year :—

Military Works—

1. Gunga Riya Lines. Though actual work was completed last year, Rs. 30,459-3-0 on account of these buildings were adjusted during 1911-12.
2. Sadul Light Infantry Rifle Range.

Civil Works—

1. New Bungalow No. 1 with outhouses.
2. Dungar College.
3. Conversion of Sujangarh Jail Barracks into Nizamat and Tahsil Courts.
4. Rajgarh Bungalow.
5. Eight Customs Thannas in the districts.
6. Re-roofing the billiard room at Gujner.
7. Renovation of and improvements to the Fort and Palaces at Bikaner. The total cost incurred under this head amounted to Rs. 69,865 against Rs. 60,000, the budget allotment, the excess being met from general savings in the Estimates.

Works in the Public Park—

1. Lady Minto Gate.
2. Minto Terrace.
3. Compound wall round the Park with iron railings
4. Bandstand.
5. Dunlop Smith Gate.

186. *Western Jumna Canal*.—As mentioned in last year's Report the Government of India had, as a result of several representations on the part of the Durbar, promised to irrigate 460 acres of land in the Bhadra Tehsil by water from this source, although the area formerly irrigated was considerably larger. But the Punjab Government have not guaranteed even this small amount and the future supply of the water seems to be far from assured.

187. *Madh and Pilap Bunds*.—The rainfall recorded on Madh Bund during the year under report was 24 cents. The water in the tank rose to a maximum height of 1 ft. only; on Pilap Bund the rainfall was only 5 cents. with the result that there was no flow of water at all.

188. The work of improving the catchment area of these bunds could not be taken in hand during the year, but it is expected that the question will be dealt with in the following year when the Department is better organised.

MECHANICAL DEPARTMENT.

189. The Department remained throughout the year under the immediate control of Mr. G. R. Drummond, M.I.E.E., M.I.M.E., the Electrical and Mechanical Engineer.

190. The total expenditure during the year amounted to Rs. 1,58,711-6-2 as against Rs. 1,76,525-7-1 of the previous year and Rs. 1,57,699, the budget allotment.

191. The details of expenditure incurred and the income derived are as follows:—

No.	Name of Head.	Expenditure.			Income.		
		Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.
1	Establishment	15,841	7	6	.....	
2	Electricity	88,998	15	4½	9,001	0	0
3	Water Works	16,693	14	6	7,096	13	0
4	Ice Machine	1,526	10	2½	2,511	3	0
5	Work-shops	4,298	12	6	181	7	0
6	Telephones	1,943	8	7	.....	
7	Motor Cars	15,622	12	11	.....	
8	Sanitary	10,781	4	7	.....	
	Total ...	1,58,711	6	2	18,760	7	6

192. *Central Electric Power Station*.—During the year under review, the station was completely overhauled: engine No. 1 and dynamos were disassembled and re-erected and other necessary repairs and adjustments were carried out. The total number of units generated was 3,73,906 and the cost per unit for the year was 2½ annas.

193. *Fort Lighting.*—The interior wiring and lighting was re-arranged and improved and many additions and alterations carried out.

194. *Lighting in the Palaces, (i) Lallgarh.*—All the underground mains for are and gate lamps were removed and replaced by lead-covered and armoured cable, while the Mahkma Khas, Lodges and Guest wing were connected with aerial mains instead of underground ones as before.

(ii) *Gujner.*—The whole of the wiring and fitting of the new Palace was completed.

195. *Other Buildings.*—The Circuit House, the Railway Station and the Ganga Kutchery (Public Offices) were wired and fitted with light and fans and connected with the supply mains, while 14 new rooms were also wired and fitted in the Mahkma Khas office.

196. *City Lighting.*—The scheme commenced in 1909-10 was completely finished during the year under report. Altogether 145 private houses of Seths and Sahukars and others were connected with the supply mains, the number of lamps in these houses being 5,000 and that of fans 215.

197. The total expenditure incurred during the year on this scheme was Rs. 3,771-3-7, while the receipts for the same period amounted to Rs. 9,001 as compared with Rs. 3,552 and Rs. 6,749-5-0, respectively, of the previous year.

198. *Road Lighting.*—The lighting on the road to the Railway Station and the King Edward Memorial Road was completely re-arranged and the Circular Road newly built round the Fort was fitted with 14 electric lamps.

199. The Chautina High Tension Mains which ran in front of the Fort were removed and the wires carried on brackets below the ground level in the Fort moat.

200. Repairs were done to the Club underground mains where necessary.

201. The main High Tension line for the Fort was re-arranged and the old No. 8 S. W. G. wire re-placed by No. 4 S. W. G. wire to allow for extra load.

202. The lighting mains along the line from the Connaught Arch to the Marble Arch and from the Fort to the Club were also re-arranged.

203. *Telephones.*—A considerable amount of original work was carried out. The new connections made during the year under review were :—

1. His Highness' study (direct to exchange).
2. District Manager, Eastern District, J. B. Railway (bungalow).
3. Customs House.
4. Electrical and Mechanical Engineer (bungalow).

Two more rooms of the Mahkma Khas Secretariat office were connected with His Highness's study.

204. *Water Works.*—The motor pumps of the Chautina well continued to work satisfactorily throughout the year, except for a short period in May and June when they went out of order owing to continual operation during the silt clearance of the well. The water pumped at an average of 7 hours daily was 4 89,34, 200 gallons.

The deepening of the Karnisagar well and the consequent apprehension of damage to the plant necessitated the removal of the old motor pumps which were re-fitted with a foundation-staging, built on an altogether new system. The water pumped at an average of 2 hours daily was 66,43,260 gallons.

The Nawalsagar well was worked with its old steam plant with an average yield of 40,000 gallons daily.

The water pumped at the Jail well at an average of 17.6 hours daily was 1,45,33,800 gallons.

205. *Ice Machinery*.—Girders and counter-shafting were fitted in the Ice Factory to enable the Ether and Ammonia machines to work together, and the whole of the plant was efficiently maintained.

206. *Sanitary Works*.—The sanitary arrangements of the Bikaner House, Mount Abu, were taken in hand and completely finished during the year. Also those of the new Palace at Gujner.

207. *Workshops*.—The average number of men employed daily was 170 at an average monthly cost of Rs. 1,603, as against 186 men daily at an average monthly payment of Rs. 1,925-3-0 during the previous year.

208. *Motor Cars*.—The work of supervising the Motor Cars formerly rested with the Head Chauffeur under the orders of the Electrical and Mechanical Engineer, but a separate Automobile Engineer, Mr. N. B. Parish, was appointed in the Department of the Comptroller of the Household.

PALANA COLLIERY.

209. The Colliery was in immediate charge of Mr. W. H. Phillips throughout the year.

210. Recent experiments with the "Suction Gas Producing Plant" showed the Palana coal to be an excellent fuel for this apparatus and on the recommendation of expert authorities 20 tons of coal were sent to England for further trial, the result of which is awaited.

As mentioned in the previous year's reports, the fires, which, owing to the bad management of Messrs. Bird & Co., prevailed in many galleries of the mine, were effectually subdued and the mine was put into a safe working condition. But at the end of March 1912, a rise of temperature was noticed in the intake air at the junction of No. 2 pump drift and the inner coal workings. A careful examination showed that fire from the old troublesome zone had travelled along the top of the seam. Immediate steps were taken to arrest its progress and the mine is now free from danger—a result for which much credit is due to Mr. Phillips.

Although this outbreak in an area which has been the chief source of coal supply for the last 10 years seriously impeded the work and considerably curtailed the output for a few months by necessitating the temporary abandonment of the pit, yet it is satisfactory to note that at 193 feet below the surface in

No. 2 Staple Shaft the roof of a coal seam was touched, proving beyond doubt an additional area of 178 acres which, calculating the minimum average thickness of 20 feet at 100 tons per inch per acre, is expected to yield 42,72,000 tons of coal.

The total output during this year was 17,844 tons as against 15,187 tons in the preceding year. Of this amount 15,316 tons were sold and 2,548 tons consumed at the Colliery. The total gross earnings amounted to Rs. 57,982 and the working expenses Rs. 56,795, thus leaving a net profit of Rs. 1,187 or 2.05 per cent. on the gross earning as against Rs. 50,309-13-0, Rs. 48,900-14-10, Rs. 1,409-8-2 and 2.80 per cent. respectively of the previous year.

The average cost of coal per ton was Rs. 3.188 and the average selling price Rs. 3.785.

The average number of persons employed daily was 184. Unfortunately 35 accidents occurred during the year, of which, it is satisfactory to note, none proved fatal. Only one was serious.

The capital expenditure during the year was Rs. 8,694 which brings the total capital expenditure on the Colliery to Rs. 1,91,134 from the commencement of operations to the end of the year under review.

Multani Mitti.—The Mitti exported during the year was 74,392 maunds, of which 56,080 maunds, were from Madh and 18,312 maunds from the Palana Mine. In the last year the total quantity exported was 52,784 maunds, *i.e.* 40,366 maunds from Madh and 12,418 maunds from Palana.

The sale proceeds amounted to Rs. 4,639-13-6 (Rs. 1,731-9-6 from Madh and Rs. 2,908-4-0 from Palana) as against Rs. 3,187-1-6 (Rs. 1,256-1-6 from Madh and Rs. 1,931 from Palana) of the last year, giving an increase of Rs. 1,452-12-0.

Rich deposits of this clay have also been discovered at Kesardesar in the pit which is being sunk there for coal.

Stone Quarries.—The following statement gives the necessary information in connection with the stone industry in the State, compared with that of the year preceding :—

PARTICULARS.	1911-12.		1910-11.	
	Mds.	Srs.	Mds.	Srs.
1. Total output	2,33,577	3	1,78,348	13
2. „ quantity sold in Bikaner City and in other places in the State	2,33,139	36	1,76,839	19
3. „ quantity exported	237	7	1,508	34

The income derived from royalty during the year was Rs. 20,87,2-11-0 against Rs. 18,142-5-3 of the previous year, giving an increase of Rs. 2,737-6-3 which is due to a larger quantity of stone having been brought this year into Bikaner City for building purposes.

With a view to developing the Dulmera stone industry, which shows great possibilities of expansion, a reduction of royalty from Rs. 25 to Rs. 2 per wagon was sanctioned to take effect from the commencement of the next year, as one of the Boons and Reliefs conferred by His Highness the Maharajah on his subjects of all classes to commemorate the Silver Jubilee.

Lime and Small Stone.—The income under this head was Rs. 3,211-0-3 against Rs. 2,762-11-6 in the previous year.

Other Minerals and Natural Products.—The Mineral Department remained in charge of Mr. J. W. Jervis, Superintendent, throughout the year.

Only two new trial-pits within easy reach of the Railway were undertaken this year, one at Deshnoke and the other at Bikaner, in search of sand suitable for glass manufacture; and it is gratifying to note that sand of good quality was discovered in both the pits within 100 feet from the surface. The trial-pit at Kesardesar, which was in progress, was carried down to 330 feet without striking coal, notwithstanding strong indications in its favour within 300 feet only. The tapping in of water has now rendered further sinking very difficult. Attempts will, however, be made to carry it on by means of hand-boring.

As mentioned in previous reports, the State abounds in large deposits of clays of various qualities, found on analysis to be specially suitable for cement, paints, &c.

211. The old Dariba Copper Mines were examined during the latter part of the year by Mr. Hopper, A.R.S.M., M.I.M.M., and his report on the prospecting operations is awaited.

212. The total expenditure on this Department during the year under report was Rs. 9,200-14-0 against Rs. 9,174-9-4 of the year preceding.

213. *Works of Public Utility.*—The following works of public utility were undertaken by private individuals during the year :—

No.	Description of work.	Cost.	Constructed by
		Rs.	
1	Dharamshala	25,000	Sukhdeo Das Jajodia of Sujangarh.
2	Pucca well	1,500	Um Singh Bhogta of V. Benata, Tehsil Sujangarh.
3	Dharamshala and Kund ...	7,000	Panna Lal Maheshbri of Chhapar.
4	Johar (at village Khejran) ...	4,440	Ramsakhdas Chardak of Sardarshahar.
5	Dharamshala and well ...	44,600	Chetram Agrawala of Ratangarh.
6	Pucca well	1,000	Chuni Lal Maheshbri of Ratangarh.
7	Do.	3,100	Didar Singh and Santa Singh, Choudhris of village Mohanpura in Tehsil Mirzawala.

In addition to the above there were 16 works in progress at the end of the year.

214. At the close of last year the number of works of public utility sanctioned to be built or repaired by the State was 171 and the sum sanctioned for these amounted to Rs. 1,32,639-2-6. During the year under report Rs. 7,130 were sanctioned for 13 new works while out of the old grant a sum of Rs. 2,550 sanctioned for 5 works was cancelled. Thus up to the close of the year under report the number of such works was 185 and the amount of grants made for them Rs. 1,37,219-2-6. Out of these 117 have been completed at a cost of Rs. 85,649-2-6, 31 are in progress and the remaining 7 have not yet been started.

CHAPTER VI.

Home Department.

EDUCATION.

215. The year under report was one of substantial progress as regards this important Department in view of the measures of reform and improvement sanctioned by His Highness the Maharajah as Jubilee boons. These were briefly:—

1. The special appointment of a Director of Education for three years in order thoroughly to overhaul the Department and to see what further improvements are possible to place it on a satisfactory basis.
2. Raising the present Durbar High School to the status of a College.
3. Provision of a commodious Hostel for the students of the College at a cost of Rs. 40,000.
4. Increase in the number of scholarships tenable at the Walter Nobles' School.
5. Additional boarding accommodation attached to the Walter Nobles' School.
6. Institution of a system of grants-in-aid, for a wider diffusion of primary education.
7. Provision for technical education and the training of local men for service in the various State Departments.
8. Appointment of itinerant mistresses to teach girls who observe strict purdah.

These measures, it is expected, will not only bring primary education within the reach of all classes of the people, both male and female, but provide facilities for the more ambitious in the shape of higher and technical education.

216. The total expenditure under this head, including the expenses incurred in connection with the Mayo College at Ajmer, amounted to Rs. 41,384-4-3 during the year under report against Rs. 37,640-2-11 in the year preceding.

217. The following table gives particulars regarding the various educational institutions :—

Serial No.	DESCRIPTION OF SCHOOLS.	Number of Schools.		No. of pupils on roll on the 30th Sept. 1912.		Daily average attendance.		Expenditure.		
		Past year.	Present year.	Past year.	Present year.	Past year.	Present year.	Rs.	As.	P.
1	Bikaner House, Mayo College, Ajmer ...	...	...	9	9	...	...	4,083	14	2
2	Walter Nobles' School... ..	1	1	85	101	52	78	7,647	15	9
3	Dungar College, including Vernacular Branches.	1	1	433	458	372.4	568.06	16,757	11	7
4	Hindi Book-keeping	1	1	32	24	28.09	28.07	760	13	0
5	Banika	1	1	215	203	194.26	193.33	860	0	0
6	Commercial Training	1	1	204	220	190.78	169.33	680	6	9
7	Patwar School	1	1	5	12	6.28	6.86	529	7	6
8	Telegraph School*	1	1	12	5	6.46	9.13	...	...	...
9	Lady Elgin Girls' School	1	1	250	300	106.57	151	1,314	1	9
10	District Schools	35	35	1,497	1,731	1,209	1,166	9,239	15	0
11	Private Institutions†	78	80	3,015	3,201	...	...	...	...	...
Total ... ..		...	...	...	...	...	...	41,354	4	3

* The teacher is provided by the Railway.

† As these Schools are not under State control and do not maintain regular registers, details of average attendance, &c., cannot be obtained.

218. *Bikaner House, Mayo College, Ajmer.*—The number of the Bikaner students reading in the above College at the close of the year was nine the same as in the previous year, Maharaj Jagmal Singh of Khilerian, a nephew of His Highness the Maharajah, who left the College in December 1911 after passing the Diploma Examination, has now joined the State service as Secretary in the Foreign Department, Mahkma Khas.

219. *Durbar High School, Bikaner. Anglo-Vernacular Section.*—Six boys were sent up from this School for the Matriculation Examination of the Allahabad University during the year, of whom three were successful, all being placed in the 3rd Division.

An ex-student of the School was sent to Dhulia to learn Excise work. He returned after receiving the necessary training, and was employed in the State Excise Department.

220. The Annual Celebration and Prize Distribution of the School was held on 25th September 1912, along with the opening ceremony by His Highness the Maharajah of the Dungar College building, constructed at a cost of Rs. 1,18,816. This was made an occasion of a full state ceremonial as the

Institution is to bear the revered name of His late Highness Maharajah Sri Dungar Singhji Bahadur. In his opening speech, His Highness referred to the educational policy of His late Highness and the progress made under the present administration ; and, after declaring the building open, asked Mrs. Windham, the wife of the Resident, who was present by special invitation, to give away the prizes.

221. It is proposed to commence the College Classes as soon as six students are forthcoming to join the First Year Class.

The progress of the boys in outdoor games has been satisfactory. At the local Football Tournament, held in November 1911, the School team proved victorious after a hard struggle with the Ganga Risala Team. The Rajputana School sports for the year were abandoned on account of the prevalence of plague at Ajmer.

222. *Hindi Book-keeping School*.—Nine boys were examined this year as against six in the preceding year, and all were successful.

223. *Commercial Training School*.—Twenty-six boys are returned as having completed a course of practical training in this school during the year.

224. *The Telegraph Training School*.—Eighteen candidates of this School passed the test examination held at Ajmer.

225. *Walter Nobles' School, Bikaner*.—In consequence of the increase in the annual grant for scholarships that was made last year, the number of boys increased, as many as 52 joining the School during the year under report.

The number of boys in the Boarding House was 38 against 34 of the last year. Considerable extensions are about to be carried out to the Boarding House on a plan which will bring it on to an architectural level with the school building itself and provide sufficient accommodation for the ever increasing number of boarders.

Kanwar Surajmal Singh of Pareora, a student of the school, who entered this year for the Rajputana Middle School Examination, passed creditably, being placed in the 2nd Division. He is now being trained in practical revenue work in the Sadar Nizamat Court.

Thakur Khet Singh of Kumbhana, an ex-student of the School who was sent to the Police Training School, Phillour, returned after completing the full course of instruction and has been appointed a Sub-Inspector in the Police Department.

Maharaj Sri Pirthi Singhji of Khilerian—brother of Maharaj Sri Jagmal Singhji Sahib—was sent to the Mayo College in April 1912.

226. *District Schools*.—The number of Schools in the Districts remained the same as in the previous year, viz., 35, though the number of boys attending these Schools increased by 234.

English up to the middle standard has been introduced into the Schools at Sadarshahr, Sujangarh and Rajgarh, but His Highness's efforts in the direction of a wider diffusion of primary village education are still greatly impeded by local conditions, the number of large towns and villages capable of supporting schools being very small and the distances between them very great. The agricultural and pastoral occupations of the bulk of the rural population and their migratory habits introduce another difficulty. With the object, however, of securing what further extension of primary education is possible under the present conditions, a system of grants-in-aid has been sanctioned, by which private schools in the State will be subsidized and Hindi taught with oral accounts in the existing Banika Schools.

227. *The Lady Elgin Girls' School.*—The School continues to do good work and there is a satisfactory increase in numbers on its rolls.

228. *Private Institutions.*—Besides the 43 schools maintained by the State, there are 80 private institutions, with 3,201 pupils on their rolls, in the towns and big villages comprising two Anglo-Vernacular Schools, eight Maktabas and 70 Pathshalas and Poshals.

POLICE.

229. The distribution of the various Thanas and Chaukis and the gradation of the officers was practically the same as last year. Two constables and three sowars were added to the Police Force, as also one ahlmad to the office establishment of the Inspector-General of Police.

230. The total strength of the Force, including the ministerial establishment, was 1,003 against 997 of the previous year, and the total cost on the maintenance of the department Rs. 1,37,651-14-6 against Rs. 1,34,179-13-9 of the preceding year.

231. The ratio of the Force to population and area is one to 698.88 units of the former and to 23.24 square miles of area, against 703.09 units of population and 23.39 square miles of area respectively of the last year.

232. There was no case of dacoity during the year under report and though as in last year there was again a slight increase in the number of other offences committed, there was similarly a more than corresponding increase in the value of the property recovered, the number of arrests made and the number of offenders convicted.

233. The value of the property stolen and recovered during the year amounted to Rs. 70,714-13-6 and Rs. 70,298-6-9 respectively against Rs. 67,597-12-9 and Rs. 59,901-8-6 of the last year, giving a most satisfactory percentage of recoveries, viz., 110.007 against 75.3 of the last year.

234. The following statements give particulars regarding the working of the Department during the year under report :—

I.

Amount stolen.		Amount recovered.		Percentage of recoveries to property stolen	
Past year.	Present year.	Past year.	Present year.	Past year.	Present year.
1	2	3	4	5	6
Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.		
67,597 12 0	70,714 13 6	60,901 8 6	79,293 6 9	75.3	110.007*

* This high percentage was due in some measure to the recovery during the year of property stolen last year.

II.

Number of offences		Number of accused arrested.		Number of accused sent for trial		Number of accused convicted.		Number of accused acquitted or discharged.		Percentage of Conviction (Columns 4 and 5)		Percentage convicted of accused sent for trial	
Past year.	Present year.	Past year.	Present year.	Past year.	Present year.	Past year.	Present year.	Past year.	Present year.	Past year.	Present year.	Past year.	Present year.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
810	864	905	933	905	933	330	467	413	363	56.4	50.05	67.3	90.03

235. Appendix No. XII shows the various kinds of crimes and cases disposed of and awaiting trial.

236. Thakur Khet Singh of Kumbhana, an *ex-student* of the Walter Nobles' School who was sent to Phillour for training in Police work, returned after completing the full course of instruction and was appointed a Sub-Inspector.

237. The Police, being armed only with obsolete weapons, were at a great disadvantage against dacoits who in many cases possessed breech-loading rifles. At the request of the Darbar, however, the Government of India provided 250 breech-loading muskets with necessary ammunition, which cannot fail to have a very beneficial effect in promoting and maintaining the public peace and the security of life and property.

238. *Criminal Tribes*.—The Sub-Inspector specially appointed for the supervision of the tribes made a tour in Suratgarh and Bikaner Districts and two thanas of Reni Sub-Tehsil during the month of September 1912. The supervision has continued to be satisfactory and the behaviour of the tribes is reported to be improving.

239. Forty-eight bighas were given to members of the tribes who asked for land on easy terms and a sum of Rs. 168 was advanced as taccavi for the purchase of seeds, implements of husbandry, etc.

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.

240. The Department remained under the charge of Major C. M. Goodbody, F.R.C.S.I., I.M.S., Director of the Medical Department, throughout the year.

241. *Hospitals and Dispensaries.*—During the year under report the total number of dispensaries in the State was 17 against 16 of the last year, the increase being due to the inclusion of the Railway Dispensary at Churu, which though opened last year, was not shown in the statement received from the Medical Department.

242. With a view to extending medical relief still more widely, His Highness the Maharajah was pleased to sanction as one of the Jubilee boons the following additions to the existing medical institutions:—

- (a) A well-equipped Zenana Hospital at the capital at an approximate cost of Rs. 33,000. This is now approaching completion.
- (b) An X-Rays Installation at the Bhagwan Das Hospital, Bikaner. This has already been provided and the apparatus is in full working order.
- (c) A new dispensary at Rasuwala, the centre of a thickly populated district where a new Tehsil is proposed to be established.
- (d) A new branch dispensary for the fast growing town of Gangashahr and the adjoining suburbs of the Bikaner City.

243. Appendix XI shows particulars of the relief afforded in the various hospitals and dispensaries of the State during the year under report.

244. The total expenditure incurred on the Medical Department during the year was Rs. 38,091 against Rs. 33,469 of the previous year.

245. *St. John's Ambulance Association.*—In 1911 a permanent branch of this Association was opened in Bikaner and from July last onwards a series of lectures was given by Major Goodbody which were attended by His Highness, his Staff and some of the principal European Officers of the State. Classes have also been formed for the Army, Police, Railway and Schools which are conducted by the Assistant Surgeon attached to the Bhagwan Das Hospital, under the supervision of Major Goodbody.

246. *Vaccination.*—The total number of vaccination operations performed during the year under report was 28,220 against 28,432 in the preceding year, of which 27,812 proved successful.

247. The expenditure incurred during the year was Rs. 4,291-13-3 against Rs. 4,223-13-0 of the last year, the average cost of each successful case being Rs. 0-2-6 compared with Rs. 0-2-4 of the last year.

248. *Sanitation and Public Health.*—The sanitation of the Bikaner City and other municipal towns was on the whole satisfactory.

249. *Epidemic Diseases.*—Previous to the year under report the State had very fortunately been free from any serious outbreak of epidemic diseases. But this year unhappily plague broke out at Rajgarh which is situated about 160 miles east of Bikaner on the railway in April 1912. The outbreak was due to infection from Sirsa in British territory which is in close proximity.

250. On receipt of information, prompt and efficient precautionary and preventive measures were at once taken, such as evacuating, cleaning and disinfecting houses, segregating suspicious cases with their families and closing rat holes.

251. The Director of the Medical Department visited Rajgarh on the 15th April and everything necessary and possible was done to stamp out the epidemic with the least possible delay.

252. The first case was reported on the 9th April and the last on the 20th. No case or death was reported after the 21st April. There were altogether 18 cases and 18 deaths.

253. *Small-Pox.*—11 cases and 9 deaths were reported during the year under report.

254. *Vital Statistics.*—The table below gives the figures for the Municipal areas, including railway lines :—

NAMES.	Population.	Births.		Increase.	Decrease.	Deaths.		Increase.	Decrease.	Rates per thousand of population.			
		Past year.	Present year.			Past year.	Present year.			Births.		Deaths.	
										Past year.	Present year.	Past year.	Present year.
Bikaner Municipal area ...	52,775	1,340	1,106	...	234	1,399	1,689	290	..	25.39	20.95	26.60	32.06
Municipal Towns in Bikaner State.	62,192	1,037	922	...	415	416	484	69	...	16.37	14.36	6.56	7.54

KARKHANAS.

255. The total number of she-camels, including young ones, at the close of the year was 1,567 besides 45 maiyas (stallions), as against 1,548 she-camels and 42 stallions in the year preceding.

THE DURBAR PRINTING PRESS.

256. The cost of establishment during the year was Rs. 7,633-1-9 against Rs. 6,952-14-3 in the preceding year.

257. The gross earnings during the year amounted to Rs. 10,858-13-10 against Rs. 14,068-11-3 in the last year, showing a decrease of Rs. 3,209-13-5, the reason for which was that during the year under report no extraordinary work was done as in the previous year when a large number of Forms, Registers, &c., were printed for the Settlement and the Customs and Excise Department.

JAILS.

1	2	No. of prisoners.				Daily average		No. of prisoners remaining at the end of this year.	Total cost of Jail and prisoners.	Average period of accused under trial.	Mortality.	
		3	4	Total.		7	8					
				Past year.	Present year.							
		Remaining from last year.	Admitted during the year.			Past year.	Present year.					
Bikaner Central Jail	...	1	303	356	675	659	274-10	237-91	172	Rs. a. p. 21,865 11 9	10-44	4

258. The discipline continued excellent as usual and the conduct of the prisoners was uniformly good.

259. The health of the prisoners was also good throughout the year. Quinine as a prophylactic was administered during the rainy season and there was practically no malaria. There were four deaths during the year under report, one from phthisis, another from paralysis, a third from chronic bronchitis and the fourth from heart-failure following asthma.

260. All these were chronic cases and in none of them was the disease contracted in the Jail.

261. *Jail Manufactures.*—The net earnings of the Jail manufactures for the year amounted to Rs. 3,062-2-6 against Rs. 8,351-2-3 of the previous year, showing a decrease of Rs. 5,288-15-9 which is attributable to the following causes :—

1. Decrease in the number of prisoners.
2. Great rise in the cost of raw materials.
3. The closing of the financial year on the 30th September instead of on the 31st of March as has been the case before.

262. *The Lunatic Asylum.*—The particulars regarding admission and discharge of lunatics are given in the following table :—

Remained.		Admitted during the year.		Total.		Discharged.				Remaining.		Daily average.	
						Cured.	Died.	Released otherwise.	Total.				
Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
7	1	16	...	17	1	7	...	1	...	...	...	8	...
										9	1	8-25	1-00

263. The expenditure incurred during the year was Rs. 486-6-6 as against Rs. 440-15-6 in the previous year.

FAIRS.

264. The fair at Kolayat was held this year from the 2nd to the 6th November 1911, and the pilgrims assembled numbered 17,000 persons.

265. The fair at Gogameri lasted from 27th August to 26th September 1912, and was attended by about 55,000 persons. The income derived from the sale of cattle amounted to Rs. 23,171-10-9 against Rs. 8,301-9-3 in the previous year, showing an increase of Rs. 14,870-1-6, due to the excellent grass and fodder in the Nohar Tehsil and at Gogameri itself which brought a large number of cattle to the fair.

266. The fair at Mokam lasted from 15th to 18th February 1912, and was attended by about 8,000 people, almost all Bishnoi Jats.

GARDENS DEPARTMENT.

267. This Department which was formerly under the Comptroller of the Household was placed under the administrative charge of the Home Member of Council in May 1912.

268. *Public Park.*—The Public Park was a new addition to the existing State Gardens during the year. The idea of it originated in His Highness the Maharajah's desire to perpetuate the historical importance of the Purejat District near Aurangabad, in His Highness the Nizam's territory, granted by the Emperor Aurangzeb to His Highness's ancestor, Raja Karan Singhji, for valuable war services rendered in the Deccan. This was in the possession of the Durbar till 1904 when it was ceded to the Government of India for cantonment purposes in exchange for certain cash compensation and two villages Babalwas and Rattakhera—adjoining the Bikaner border—over which the Imperial Government have transferred full rights to the Durbar. The scheme was gradually enlarged and, thanks to the public spirit of the people of Bikaner, it has been possible to complete this spacious park, covering an area of about 35 acres and estimated to cost Rs. 4,15,000, which has been met entirely by public subscriptions. It will form a place of public resort, and is designed to contain monuments to the memory of those who have earned the gratitude of the Durbar by their services to the State.

269. Though the work was originally commenced in March 1910, progress was at first naturally slow, for not only had careful plans and surveys to be prepared but large clearances had to be made, while in addition to other difficulties, the work was specially hampered by the failure of the rainfall last year, whilst this year again, though the other districts of the State were more fortunate, Bikaner City itself had very little. It has therefore been impossible to turf the whole of the Park. The earthwork was finished by the end of July last and top-dressing and turfing were taken in hand just after the first rains during the year. Turfing and planting trees and shrubs, etc., are still being done.

270. The progress so far made has not been unsatisfactory, taking into consideration the scanty rainfall and the insufficient supply of water. Adequate arrangements are about to be made for a pumping plant to ensure a successful and permanent water-supply which is available in abundance at a depth of 300 feet.

271. *Sheo Bilas Garden*.—This garden which is situated within the Fort was extended in the old Moghal style.

272. *Railway Station Garden*.—A small garden in front of the Railway Station was laid out and turfed.

273. *The Gupner Garden*.—An extensive camping ground lying between the old Palace and the electric sub-station was prepared and a small garden in front of the new Palace laid out. The terrace between the new Palace and the billiard room has been turfed, some walks and beds in front of the old Palace were re-arranged and the Purdah-garden and small plots of garden here and there laid out.

274. *Plants and Seeds*.—Many plants were imported from Lahore, Saharanpur, Agra and Madras and the seeds of English flowers direct from England. Owing to the scarcity of water, propagation by grafting was not so satisfactory this year.

275. The total expenditure of the upkeep of gardens during the year under report was Rs. 35,354-0-3 as against Rs. 30,254-4-6 in the year preceding.

WELLS DEPARTMENT.

276. Like the Gardens Department this Department was formerly under the Comptroller of the Household but was placed under the Home Member of Council in May 1912. There were altogether 19 wells under the control of this Department, 3, *viz.*, Karnisagar, Chautina and Jail wells being fitted with electric motor pumps, and a fourth one, the Nawal-sagar, with a steam pump, the rest being worked by bullocks.

277. The total income of the Department during the year under report was Rs. 13,295-1-2 as against Rs. 12,246-4-0 in the preceding year while the total expenditure incurred was Rs. 11,782-14-0 against Rs. 11,791-8-6 in the last year, showing a net income of Rs. 1,516-3-2 during the year under report.

CHAPTER VII.

The Military Department.

278. The actual strength of the forces during 1911-12 as compared with that of the last year is given below :—

Name.						At the end of the last year.	At the end of the year under report.
Bodyguard	...	...	...	...	...	48	50
Artillery	...	...	...	...	...	58	58
Dungar Lancers	...	...	...	...	...	312	312
Ganga Risala	...	...	...	...	...	485	479
Sadul Light Infantry...	...	...	...	...	...	393	423
Total						1,296	1,322

279. On 15th October 1911, Lance Naick Ganpat Singh of the Ganga Risala, and Lance Naicks Berisal Singh and Ladhu Singh of the Sadul Light Infantry were sent to Umbala to undergo a course of instruction in Physical Training and were all granted First Class certificates.

280. At the invitation of the Government of India 100 rank and file of the Ganga Risala and 300 of the Sadul Light Infantry proceeded by special train on 19th November 1911 to Delhi for the Coronation Durbar during which they were stationed at the Imperial Service Troops Camp. The Ganga Risala was attached to the Divisional Troops and the Sadul Light Infantry to the First Imperial Service Brigade. They took part in the Grand Review held by His Imperial Majesty on the Barari plain on 14th December 1911, and on many occasions had the honour of lining the roads during the passage of Their Imperial Majesties. They returned to Bikaner on 25th December 1911.

281. Jamadar Bharat Singh of the Ganga Risala received a silver medal as second prize for Bayonet Fighting from the hands of His Most Gracious Majesty the King-Emperor at the Delhi Military Tournament.

282. On 13th January 1912, a party of 5 non-commissioned officers and men of the Ganga Risala under Adjutant Heer Singh was sent to Meerut to take part in the Bengal-Punjab Rifle Association Meeting where 3 of the party won seven prizes in the various events.

283. From 6th to 10th February 1912 Captain Routh, officiating Deputy Assistant Adjutant General for Musketry, Imperial Service Troops, inspected the Musketry of the Ganga Risala and the Sadul Light Infantry and was satisfied with the work done by the two regiments. The Field Firing of the Ganga Risala and Sadul Light Infantry took place on 10th February 1912 near village Sheobari in his presence and the percentage of hits scored by the Ganga Risala and Sadul Light Infantry was 15 and 12 respectively, against 17 of the Ganga Risala last year, which alone took part in the Field Firing on that occasion. At the close of the year under report there were 9 officers and 7 non-commissioned officers in the Ganga Risala and 2 officers and 5 non-commissioned officers in the Sadul Light Infantry duly qualified at the School of Musketry, against 9 officers and 5 non-commissioned officers and 1 officer and 3 non-commissioned officers respectively last year.

284. There were 3 Instructors, 6 First Class and 9 Second Class Signallers in the Ganga Risala and 2 Instructors, 1 First Class and 9 Second Class Signallers in the Sadul Light Infantry at the end of the year under report. The general result of the Signalling Inspection of the two regiments made by the Inspector of Signalling, Imperial Service Troops, was satisfactory.

285. On 29th February 1912, Jemadar Megh Singh and Havildar Chander Singh of the Sadul Light Infantry were sent to Nahan (Sirmur State) for instruction in Pioneer duties. Both passed the test, Jamadar Megh Singh standing Superior First in the class.

286. Thakur Moti Singh of Raisar was appointed Senior Assistant Commandant of the Ganga Risala, *vice* Kanwar Jeoraj Singh promoted to be Commandant.

287. In order to afford increased comfort to the men of the State Forces, His Highness the Maharajah was pleased to sanction the free grant of white drill full dress uniforms at a cost of Rs. 7,740-0-3 for use in summer during which serge full dress uniforms had previously been worn.

288. In commemoration of the Jubilee His Highness the Maharajah was graciously pleased to recognise the loyalty, devotion and efficiency of the State Forces by the announcement of the following boons :—

- (a) The award of half a month's pay of rank to the Non-Commissioned Officers and men of all the Regiments.
- (b) The grant of increased pay to all ranks of the Body Guard and Dungar Lancers and to the Non-Commissioned Officers and men of the Sadul Light Infantry.
- (c) The institution of a Chanda Fund for the Artillery with a substantial grant-in-aid.

289. The Regiment of Lancers was, on this most auspicious occasion, ordered by His Highness the Maharajah to be hereafter designated the "Dungar Lancers" after the name of His late Highness Maharajah Sri Dungar

290. On the same occasion His Highness also sanctioned the following appointments and promotions in the various regiments of the State Forces :—

To be Personal Aides-de-camp to His Highness the Maharajah.—

Maharaj Sri Bhairun Singhji Bahadur, C.S.I., with the Honorary Rank of Lieutenant-Colonel in the State Forces, attached to the Sadul Light Infantry.

Maharaj Sri Jagmal Singhji Sahib, with the Honorary Rank of Major in the State Forces, attached to the Ganga Risala.

Promotions—

To be Lieutenant Colonel.—

Major Deen Dayal, Commandant, Sadul Light Infantry and Honorary A.D.C.

To be Major.—

Captain Thakur Bakhtawar Singh of Samandsar, Commandant of the Body Guard and A.D.C.

To be Honorary Major.—

Captain Thakur Sadul Singh of Bagseu. Revenue Member of Council and Honorary A.D.C.

To be Captains.—

Shani Hamir Singh, Resaldar Major, Dungar Lancers.

Assistant Commandant Gurbux Singh Bahadur, Sadul Light Infantry.

Thakur Kishen Singh, I.O.M., Ganga Risala.

Thakur Shivenath Singh, Adjutant, Sadul Light Infantry.

Lieutenant Kanwar Ranjit Singh of Gadhwala. A.D.C.

Lieutenant Kanwar Baney Singh of Motasar, A.D.C.

Lieutenant Kanwar Gulab Singh of Boghera. A.D.C.

Thakur Man Singh, Sadul Light Infantry.

To be Aide-de-Camp to His Highness the Maharajah.—

Captain Thakur Man Singh, Sadul Light Infantry.

To be Extra Aides-de-camp to His Highness the Maharajah.—

Captain Shani Hamir Singh. Dungar Lancers.

Captain Gurbux Singh Bahadur, Sadul Light Infantry.

Captain Thakur Kishen Singh, I.O.M., Ganga Risala.

Captain Thakur Shivenath Singh, Sadul Light Infantry.

APPENDICES.

Appendix I.—Judicial Department.

Statement showing the number of offences reported and dealt with by the various Courts during the year 1911-12.

COURT.	Number of offences reported during the year.		Number of persons dealt with.								Persons disposed of.						Persons remaining at the end of the year.
	Past year.	Present year.	Remaining at the end of the last year.	Brought to trial in 1911-12.					Total.		Discharged without trial.	Acquitted.	Convicted.	Committed or referred.	Died, escaped or transferred.		
				Arrested by Police.	Upon Warrant.	On Summons.	Voluntary.	Arrested in presence of the Magistrate.	Past year.	Present year.							
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	
Chief Court ...	34	14	7	22	.....	.....	.....	.....	64	29	.....	4	24	.....	....	1
Nizamats ...	327	291	53	425	15	51	7	6	738	557	201	78	198	11	3	66	
Asst. Nazim's Court, Bikaner.	74	73	8	66	4	91	2	.....	145	171	38	73	17	.....	.....	43
Tehsildars' Courts ...	828	664	40	457	57	818	30	8	1,863	1,410	327	631	270	.....	12	170
Total ...	1,263	1,012	108	970	76	960	39	14	2,810	2,167	566	786	509	11	15	280	

Appendix III.—Judicial Department—Contd.

Statement of Civil Work, showing the nature and value of original suits filed and disposed of during the year 1911-12.

COURT.	Opening Balance.		Filed during the year, received by transfer or on remand.		Total.		Disposed of during the year.		Closing Balance.		Suits filed during present year.										Suits disposed of during present year.					Average Duration.						
	Past year.	Present year.	Past year.	Present year.	Past year.	Present year.	Past year.	Present year.	Past year.	Present year.	Value.					Suits for landed property.	Suits for money transactions.	Suits for other rights.	No. of suits under Rs. 100.	No. of suits above Rs. 100 but under Rs. 500.	No. of suits above Rs. 500 but under 1,000.	No. of suits above Rs. 1,000 but under Rs. 5,000.	No. of suits above Rs. 5,000.	Ex parte.	Admitted and compromised.		Struck off the file.	Otherwise disposed of.	Value.			
											1	2	3	4	5															6	7	8
1	3	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26							
											Rs. n. p.													Rs. n. p.								
Chief Court ...	4	3	5	3	9	6	6	4	3	2	1,52,995	9	0	...	...	...	...	3	1	1	2	...	1,25,087	6	3	9-7						
Nizam's ...	29	68	195	133	254	200	186	144	68	56	2,91,726	11	6	35	100	7	29	61	10	27	19	23	70	2,32,195	3	3	3-23					
Assistant Nazim's Court, Bikaner...	...	53	455	419	465	472	402	422	435	50	70,807	10	0	1	393	25	271	97	...	77	141	...	201	56,387	12	0	1-20					
Tahsildar's Courts ...	...	125	1,949	269	2,144	1,067	3,036	983	108	79	84,424	13	3	72	802	83	629	273	...	90	275	229	394	85,692	9	6	1-29					
Total ...	...	258	2,604	1,513	2,863	1,715	2,030	1,558	252	187	5,99,953	10	9	99	1,293	117	800	370	61	13	125	436	663	4,99,362	14	0	4-5					

Appendix V.—Judicial Department—Concl'd.

Statement of Civil Work showing the number and results of appeals in Civil Suits during the year 1911-12.

COURT.	Opening Balance.		Filed during		Total.		Disposed of during		Closing Balance.		Value of appeals filed during		How Disposed of.										Average Duration.			
	Past year.	Present year.	Past year.	Present year.	Past year.	Present year.	Past year.	Present year.	Past year.	Present year.	Past year.	Present year.	Decisions reversed, confirmed.	Decisions reversed, amended.	Cases remanded for retrial.	Cases compromised and otherwise disposed of.	Past year.	Present year.	Past year.	Present year.	Past year.	Present year.	Past year.	Present year.	Past year.	Present year.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Chief Court ...	68	27	229	157	297	184	270	168	27	16	70,697 4 9	97,735 0 0	160	89	65	32	23	29	8	1	12	17	3-12	1-19		
Nearabouts ...	31	31	236	166	267	197	236	168	31	39	28,134 7 8	18,699 15 3	130	96	46	31	26	13	19	1	15	14	1-20	1-21		
Total ...	99	58	465	323	564	381	506	356	58	55	98,831 12 5	1,16,434 15 3	290	185	111	63	51	42	37	5	27	31	1-5	1-20		

Appendix VI.
Chapter III.—Revenue Department.
Statement of rainfall in the Bikaner State.

Serial No.	District.	Date of rain fall.	October 1911.		Nov. 1911.		Dec. 1911.		Jan. 1912.		Feb. 1912.		March 1912.		April 1912.		May 1912.		June 1912.		July 1912.		August 1912.		September 1912.		Total 1912.		Total of last year.		Average of last five years.							
			Inches.	Cents.	Inches.	Cents.	Inches.	Cents.	Inches.	Cents.	Inches.	Cents.	Inches.	Cents.	Inches.	Cents.	Inches.	Cents.	Inches.	Cents.	Inches.	Cents.	Inches.	Cents.	Inches.	Cents.	Inches.	Cents.	Inches.	Cents.	Inches.	Cents.						
1	Bikaner.	Bikaner ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	40	...	...	...	...	12	...	...	...	...	...	1	32	2	61	...	...	6	80	5	62	15	89	
2		Chajner ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	15	...	...	...	...	9	...	...	...	...	...	3	83	1	68	...	...	7	33	2	89	10	53	
3		Pahna ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	32	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	4	20	1	49	...	...	8	14	4	96	12	10	
4		Lantarnagar ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	67	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	1	61	1	97	...	...	5	49	6	8	10	71	
5	Bikaner.	Satpara ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	81	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	68	2	41	1	51	...	...	6	94	...	70	12	71
6		Phajja ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	79	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	12	...	7	...	...	3	81	3	16	9	41	
7		Charu ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	22	...	...	...	...	1	23	...	...	...	...	24	7	35	2	98	...	...	16	13	7	27	17	8
8		Bhadra ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	43	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	33	3	40	...	...	15	21	8	9	13	8
9	Bikaner.	Nohar ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	93	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	72	4	55	2	17	2	37	12	67	6	59	11	33
10		Bakgarh	2	40	20	6	99	4	60	20	14	89	11	81	13	25				
11		Reel	3	23	35	4	74	4	77	24	13	74	6	55	11	70				
12		Sajangarh	2	86	30	8	45	8	9	25	15	90	6	99	15	99				
13	Sajangarh.	Babugarh	2	63	30	7	66	6	1	58	17	49	4	91	19	84				
14		Dangargarh ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	41	1	95	...	...	6	74	5	15	14	78
15		Sadar Bahar ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	46	6	9	1	60	...	...	10	87	4	49	13	97
16		Hanumangarh	83	10	...	3	70	35	13	67	8	75	14	17				
17	Bikaner.	Saratgarh ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	80	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	11	45	2	30	...	...	15	6	8	7	15	5
18		Mirawali ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20	5	62	1	44	...	...	9	35	5	49	12	59
19		Anupgarh ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	22	...	47	...	5	72	3	83	11	84	
20		Tilt ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17	5	40	1	92	...	...	9	33	7	95	11	74
			Total		213		27		317		39		265		10	
			Average		10		66		6		87		13		26	

Appendix VII.
CHAPTER III—Revenue Department.
Statement of prices of staple food grains.

Article.	Place.	During the last week of Dec. 1911.	During the last week of March 1912.	During the last week of June 1912.	During the last week of Sept. 1912
Bajri	Bikaner	11½	10½	8½	9½
	Sujangarh	12	11	10½	9
	Reni	12	11½	10	11
	Suratgarh	12	12	11	14
Wheat	Bikaner	10½	9½	9½	10
	Sujangarh	10½	10	9½	10
	Reni	10½	9½	9½	11
	Suratgarh	11	11	10	12
Gram	Bikaner	13	15½	13	12
	Sujangarh	16	15½	13½	15
	Reni	17	16	14	17
	Suratgarh	17	18	14	16
Moong	Bikaner	8	8½	9	8
	Sujangarh	12	11	10	9
	Reni	13	12	12	12
	Suratgarh	10	.....	.....	9
Moth	Bikaner	13	12½	10	11
	Sujangarh	13½	13	11	12
	Reni	14	15	13	15
	Suratgarh	18	10	12	15
Barley	Bikaner	13½	12½	11½	11
	Sujangarh	14	14	12	13
	Reni ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Suratgarh ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....
Jawar	Bikaner	12½	12	10	11
	Sujangarh	13	12	10½	13
	Reni ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Suratgarh ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....

Appendix VIII—Finance.

Statement of Receipts and Expenditure of the

Receipts.

Sl. No.	Heads of Receipts.				Actual of Samvat 1967-68 (1910-1911 A. D.)	Estimates for Samvat 1968-69 (1911-1912 A. D.)	Actuals of Samvat 1968-1969 (1911-1912 A. D.)
					Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
	OPENING BALANCE.				6,18,839 4 9	1,64,290 0 0	1,32,457 8 10
	Ordinary.						
1	Land Revenue	...	...	...	12,20,719 0 9	12,46,000 0 0	10,36,467 14 7
2	Irrigation	...	...	...	17,735 1 9	6,000 0 0	1,808 9 0
3	Customs	...	...	...	11,41,019 14 0	11,02,700 0 0	10,56,924 7 5
4	Excise	...	...	...	52,048 10 6	74,000 0 0	57,696 7 1
5	Minerals	...	...	...	73,962 7 10	69,500 0 0	79,887 18 2
6	Salt	...	...	...	27,517 14 0	30,000 0 0	27,497 8 0
7	Saltpetre	...	...	...	3,906 0 6	4,000 0 0	56 0 0
8	Stamp Revenue	...	...	...	48,027 13 0	40,000 0 0	42,020 14 3
9	Law and Justice	...	...	...	1,43,019 3 9	1,58,000 0 0	1,18,993 2 9
10	Registration	...	...	...	1,36,697 15 3	96,000 0 0	1,36,726 1 6
11	Railway and Telegraph	...	...	...	11,24,066 10 9	13,50,000 0 0	17,01,335 14 3
12	Sale of State Land and Houses	...	...	...	93,096 4 3	75,000 0 0	1,59,070 7 9
13	Darbar Printing Press	...	...	...	.....	11,000 0 0	17,691 5 6
14	Jails	...	...	...	132 4 5	7,500 0 0	7 5 0
15	Engineering Department	...	...	...	18,249 8 7	14,250 0 0	18,962 12 9
16	Karkhanas	...	...	...	8,020 6 9	8,500 0 0	7,398 2 9
17	Sheep Farm	...	...	...	389 7 6	400 0 0	488 15 6
18	Interest	...	...	...	1,26,914 4 6	45,350 0 0	51,250 2 4
19	Miscellaneous	...	...	...	83,550 4 7	71,400 0 0	69,098 0 7
Total Ordinary					13,18,537 15 6	14,62,500 0 0	15,52,377 2 0
Carried over					13,18,537 15 6	14,62,500 0 0	15,52,377 2 0

Appendix VIII—(contd.)

Bikaner State for Samvat 1968-69 (A. D. 1911-1912).

Expenditure.

Serial No.	Heads of Expenditure.	Actuals of Samvat 1967-68 (1910-1911 A. D.)			Estimates for Samvat 1968-69 (1911-12 A. D.)			Actuals of Samvat 1968-69 (1911-1912 A. D.)		
		Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.
	<i>Ordinary.</i>									
1	Devasthan Department	45,481	6	3	43,431	0	0	44,564	14	6
2	Palace	4,21,339	1	7	4,38,929	0	0	4,64,680	15	7
3	Gifts and Rewards	55,768	11	9	27,500	0	0	21,312	5	9
4	Guests	49,967	9	10	40,024	0	0	11,004	13	0
5	Karkhanas	1,71,844	5	11	1,75,119	0	0	1,94,186	2	8
6	Mahkma Khas & Council	1,17,180	7	1	1,22,446	0	0	1,30,260	1	9
7	Revenue Department	1,42,651	15	9	1,70,518	0	0	1,47,368	14	6
8	Financial Department	19,823	11	6	35,945	0	0	33,209	15	7
9	Judicial Department	52,173	4	5	53,263	0	0	50,493	1	0
10	Customs Department	58,561	7	9	61,828	0	0	60,167	2	3
11	Salt Department	8,197	2	0	8,654	0	0	7,169	1	0
12	Army	3,37,103	8	7	3,79,863	0	0	3,60,673	14	9
13	Police Department	1,17,638	6	6	1,39,016	0	0	1,28,912	11	8
14	Medical Department	51,560	6	6	84,099	0	0	81,608	14	0
15	Durbar Printing Press	7,390	2	0	9,407	0	0	8,847	7	7
16	Jails	24,156	15	6	25,262	0	0	21,932	13	8
17	Railway and Telegraph	4,66,862	1	4	7,58,000	0	0	7,90,154	5	9
18	Works of Public Utility	14,343	8	6	15,000	0	0	5,967	12	3
19	Public Works Department	2,60,432	12	7	5,37,508	0	0	4,63,862	7	10
20	Mechanical Department	1,87,683	2	0	1,57,699	0	0	1,83,040	2	4
21	Mineral Department	68,437	15	7	84,853	0	0	68,795	12	8
22	Education Department	37,640	2	11	47,323	0	0	41,355	3	2
23	Municipality and Sanitation	39,062	11	4	47,759	0	0	43,576	12	10
24	Sheep Farm	327	6	3	399	0	0	314	4	9
25	Vakils	7,716	14	1	7,517	0	0	7,260	5	5
	Carried forward	27,63,310	5	6	31,71,357	0	0	33,70,720	8	3

Appendix VIII—Finance—(contd.)

Statement of Receipts and Expenditure of the Bikaner State for

Receipts.

Serial No.	Heads of Receipts.	Actuals of Samvat 1967-68 (1910-1911 A. D.)	Estimates for Samvat 1968-69 (1911-1912 A. D.)	Actuals of Samvat 1968-69 (1911-1912 A. D.)
		Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
	Brought forward ...	43,18,897 15 6	44,09,600 0 0	45,83,877 2 0
	<i>Extraordinary.</i>			
	Miscellaneous 	29,166 0 9	14,000 0 0	3,276 0 0
		</		

Appendix VIII.—concluded.

Samvat 1968-69 (A. D. 1911-1912).

Expenditure.

Serial No.	Heads of Expenditure.	Actuals of Samvat 1967-68 (1910-1911 A.D.)			Estimates for Samvat 1968-69 (1911-1912 A.D.)			Actuals of Samvat 1968-69 (1911-1912 A.D.)		
		Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.
	Brought forward	27,62,316	5	6	24,71,357	0	0	33,70,720	8	3
6	Pensions and Stipends	27,379	14	11	27,386	0	0	25,103	12	7
7	Compensation	38,901	7	6	39,438	0	0	48,897	13	5
8	Subscriptions and Donations	10,352	7	0	2,781	0	0	1,742	0	0
9	Interest and Discount	21,888	1	9	12,000	0	0	14,615	1	8
30	School of Music	.....			2,760	0	0	2,932	7	0
31	Miscellaneous	90,106	2	8½	99,168	0	0	82,693	10	11
32	Political Agency	17,491	11	2	.....			.....
	Total "Ordinary"	29,69,430	2	6½	36,54,890	0	0	35,46,205	6	4
	Extraordinary.									
(a)	Railway Construction	14,87,041	3	1	12,12,644	0	0	6,22,221	11	6
(b)	Revenue written off and remitted	9,367	5	0	.....			5,474	8	3
(c)	Settlement operations	31,982	13	6	20,000	0	0	8,666	3	3
(d)	Repayment of Railway loan	1,00,000	0	0	.....			.....
(e)	Miscellaneous	40,963	13	11	.....			8,687	3	0
(f)	Part of the expenses incurred on the demise of Maji Shri Chandrawatji Sahiba	19,691	1	9	.....			.....
(g)	Census Operations	7,658	13	6	.....			2,997	7	6
(h)	Delhi Durbar	32,241	11	6	2,50,000	0	0	2,28,331	4	1
(i)	H. H.'s visit to England to attend Coronation.	98,970	3	1	.....			1,876	11	6
(j)	Officers of Sri Ganga Risala and Sadul Light Infantry going to England	4,012	14	9	.....			.....
(k)	Expenses on the occasion of Maharaj Kumar Sri Virsinghji Sahib's birth	21,086	9	6	.....			.....
(l)	State donation towards the Public Park	.....			30,000	0	0	.....	
(m)	H. H.'s Jubilee Celebrations	.....			1,50,000	0	0	89,933	8	1
(n)	King Edward Provincial Memorial Fund	.....			.....			4,000	0	0
(o)	Allahabad Exhibition	.....			.....			3,426	9	0
	Total "Extraordinary"	18,53,016	9	7	16,62,644	0	0	9,80,715	2	2
	Grand Total	48,22,446	12	1½	53,17,534	0	0	45,26,920	8	6
	Closing Balance	1,39,457	8	10½	7,29,644	0	0	1,39,150	3	10
	Great Grand Total	49,61,904	5	0	45,87,590	0	0	47,26,070	12	4

Appendix IX.

Chapter III—Revenue Department.

Statement showing the Receipts and Expenditure on account of Registration during the year 1911-12.

Description.	Past year.			Present year.			REMARKS.
	Number of deeds.	Value of property.	Fees realised.	Number of deeds.	Value of property.	Fees realised.	
Mortgage	105	Rs. a. p. 8,08,661 1 3	Rs. a. p. 1,800 12 0	177	Rs. a. p. 5,58,391 7 0	Rs. a. p. 1,679 0 0	
Sale	741	6,15,760 10 9	2,659 8 0	703	6,19,366 5 0	2,775 8 0	
Will	1	1,800 0 0	10 0 0	5	931 0 0	24 0 0	
Bonds	38	43,261 12 0	86 12 0	24	53,710 2 0	44 4 0	
Miscellaneous	96	56,893 6 6	208 2 6	79	11,218 12 0	157 4 0	
Total	1,287	15,26,379 15 0	4,760 2 6	1,288 ⁺	12,16,650 10 0	4,830 0 0	
Debit—Expenditure ... ..	.....	.....	295 11 0	.....	.....	281 2 0	
Net Profit ... ..	.....	.....	1,461 4 6	.....	.....	4,593 14 0	

Appendix X.—Public Works Department.

Statement showing the Expenditure during the year 1911-12.

Statement showing the Expenditure during the year 1902															
Description of Works.	State Funds.				Local Funds.				Public Funds and Subscriptions.			Grand Total.			
	Original Works.		Repairs.	Total.	Original Works.		Repairs.	Total.	Original Works.	Repairs.	Total.				
	Rs.	a. p.			Rs.	a. p.							Rs.	a. p.	Rs.	a. p.	Rs.	a. p.
Military	...	39,165	9 9	1,825	0 9	40,990	10 6	Rs.	a. p.	28,983	2 6	Rs.	a. p.	69,973	13 0
Civil	...	3,12,115	14 6	30,591	3 9	3,43,607	2 3	.....	.....	21,529	8 6	.....	.....	3,64,536	10 9
Communication	13,115	1 9	13,115	1 9	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	13,115	1 9
Miscellaneous	...	24,129	3 0	7,487	8 6	31,616	11 6	.....	.....	396	15 3	.....	.....	32,013	10 9
Establishment	...	25,002	8 0	.....	.....	25,002	8 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	25,002	8 0
Irrigation	73	9 0	73	9 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	73	9 0
Grand Total	...	4,00,713	3 3	53,092	7 9	4,53,805	11 0	.....	.....	50,909	10 3	.....	.....	5,04,715	5 3

Appendix XI.—Medical Department.

Statement of Medical Relief during the year 1911-12.

DISPENSARY	No. of Patients treated.		Results of Indoor Patients.						Daily average.		Surgical Operations.		Expenditure.
	Outdoor.	Indoor.	Cured.	Relieved.	Discharged.	Died.	Remaining.	Outdoor.	Indoor.	Major.	Minor.		
Bhagwandas Hospital, Bikaner	28,632	855	717	20	84	9	25	189.88	40.75	483	1,775	10,524	
Do. do, Chura	10,776	89	65	10	9	2	3	94.97	3.86	59	1,006	2,799	
Katangarh Dispensary	9,569	50	38	7	4	.....	1	64.56	1.84	41	525	1,408
Sainganarh do.	13,684	71	70	.....	1	.....	3	101.26	5.83	71	893	1,707
Sardarsahr do.	9,050	83	56	12	10	4	1	57.60	3.47	39	843	1,871	
Reni do.	8,761	19	14	4	1	.....	.....	52.12	.50	25	865	1,909
Nohar do.	5,629	40	36	4	.....	.....	.....	51.49	1.84	24	714	1,621
Rajgarh do.	8,020	36	26	2	4	.....	4	50.00	2.37	10	770	1,406
Bladra do.	5,268	37	23	2	7	.....	2	35.41	1.95	1	334	1,242
Suratgarh do.	6,643	37	30	4	1	.....	2	33.59	1.80	1	551	1,220
Hannunagarh do.	3,869	29	17	6	1	.....	.....	25.35	1.26	1	232	1,169
Pabes Hospital	8,332	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	59.43	.....	.....	768	2,106
Railway Dispensary, Hannunagarh	4,284	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	22.37	.....	.....	100	1,133
Jail Dispensary	2,077	4	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	16.78	.12	.....	.....	31
Palana do.	1,362	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3.81	.....	.....	2	817
Dungargarh Dispensary	3,590	14	12	.....	2	.....	.....	27.55	.50	.....	53	552
Railway Dispensary, Chura	930	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	9.25	.....	.....	36	1,076
Total	1,30,646	1,367	1,101	71	121	27	41	898.42	66.09	755	9,460	38,091	

Appendix XII.—Police.

Statement showing the number of crimes committed, number of cases disposed of and cases awaiting trial during the year 1911-12.

Description of Offences.	Number of Offences.				Number of cases disposed of during the past year.	Number of cases disposed of during present year.	Number of persons apprehended.	Number of persons convicted.	Number of persons sentenced.						Terms of Imprisonment.															
	Balance from past year.	Committed during the present year.	Total.	Total.					Simple.	Rigorous.	Imprisonment.		Fine only.	Whipping.	Total.	Number of persons acquitted or discharged.	Number of persons confined being in-cave.	Number of persons died during or before trial.	Terms of Imprisonment.											
											Simple.	Rigorous.							Terms of Imprisonment.											
																			Under one month.	From 1 to 2 months.	From 2 to 3 months.	From 3 to 6 months.	From 6 to 12 months.	From 1 to 2 years.	From 2 to 3 years.	From 3 to 6 years.	Above 6 years.	Transportation.	Capital punishment.	Awaiting trial.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
Dracoity ...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Robbery ...	46	39	85	23	25	36	7	...	7	...	...	...	...	7	27	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Theft over Rs. 50...	...	299	365	664	191	176	92	...	55	2	30	1	1	92	61	...	...	18	6	6	8	18	21	8	1	...	...	...	21
Theft under Rs. 50	...	333	272	505	182	180	90	...	56	1	14	18	1	90	91	...	...	18	22	8	11	5	6	1	...	...	...	...	12
Murder ...	...	15	8	23	4	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Poisoning ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Others ...	...	5	180	185	182	522	278	1	85	57	37	28	...	278	190	...	...	8	16	32	18	61	51	...	...	...	...	...	43
Total	503	864	1,461	589	537	933	467	1	203	60	61	120	2	467	283	...	3	44	46	37	99	84	79	9	1	8	81

Appendix XIII.

Addresses presented to His Highness the Maharajah on the occasion of the Jubilee.

(1) By the Sardars of the State.

To Jangaldhar Badshah Maharajadhiraj Raj Rajeshwar Narendra Shiromani Colonel His Highness Maharajah Sri Sir Ganga Singhji Bahadur, G. C. S. I., G.C.I.E., A.D.C., LL.D. May it please Your Highness,—We, the Sardars of the Bikaner State assembled to-day, beg to approach Your Highness to offer you our loyal homage and respectful congratulations on the happiest and most auspicious occasion of Your Highness's Jubilee.

Your Highness's reign marks a bright chapter in the annals of the Bikaner State. A striking success has been achieved in the reform of the administration, under the auspices of which, quickened by the noblest aspirations and the impulse of new light and life, the people have enjoyed full peace and happiness.

For us, Rajputs, who have been ever regarded as an important factor in the State economy as well as the natural leaders of the people, no surer wealth than the sword has been hitherto discovered, and verily we feel proud to remember that, under Your Highness's example and leadership, the flourish of our sabre has proved the Rajput prowess even beyond the seas on the fields of China and Somaliland. The recent improvements in the organisation of our army have enlarged its scope and afforded greater opportunities for the gratification of our military spirit, while Your Highness's personal interest in the Walter Nobles' School has substantially promoted our moral and material well-being, so that many of our sons are this day acquitting themselves creditably in responsible appointments both in our own State and in British India.

The space at our disposal will not permit us here to enumerate the various points of excellence that have been gained for the advancement of the public weal by Your Highness's government at the cost of much labour and anxiety to Your Highness. The rapid expansion of the modern means of communication—Railways, Telegraphs and Post Offices—have greatly multiplied the facilities of trade; and the system of our Public Instruction has been found to be truly beneficial in that the rising generation are now getting well equipped to keep pace with the times. The ample provisions for the maintenance of our Medical and Municipal Departments on modern lines have gone a long way to improve sanitation and to preserve health. The revised constitution of the Courts has guaranteed a superior standard of efficiency in the administration of Justice and a real boon has been bestowed by the restoration of the Hindi script in the working of the several offices with the result that the community of Hindi scholars here during recent years has grown considerably, and hands would not be wanting if the whole State work were done in our own language. We also believe that even among State servants there would be only rare exceptions not familiar with the indigenous characters. Accordingly we hold it our bounden and sacred duty to pray that, for the greater good of your people and as a memorable boon of this unique occasion, Your Highness may be pleased to command that—except where the working entails in English—Hindi shall hereafter be immediately adopted as the sole medium of official business throughout the State.

Annadata, the chronicles of the Raj, testify to the fact that the Bikaner Sardars have sacrificed their all in the service of their Sovereign and for the glory of Truth and Justice ; and to-day we humbly beg to assure you that, in Your Highness's benign reign, this sense of our loyalty and devotion has remained as firm and cordial as ever and—come what may—it shall continue right whole and solid for all times to come.

In conclusion, we very respectfully offer Your Highness our heartfelt congratulations, fervently praying that, by the grace of the Almighty—Sri Lakshmi Narainji—and the great Goddess Sri Karniji, Your Highness may long live to rule, to bless, to enjoy and to see realized the cherished hopes of your glorious career. We beg to subscribe ourselves, Your Highness's Most Loyal and Devoted Subjects, *The Sardars of the State*.

(2) By the Indian Officials of the State.

To Colonel His Highness Maharajadhiraj Raj Rajeshwar Narendra Shivomani Maharajah Sri Sir Ganga Singhji Bahadur, G. C. S. I., G. C. I. E., A. D. C., LL. D. May it please Your Highness,—We, the Indian Officials of the Bikaner State, beg to approach Your Highness on this most auspicious occasion of the Silver Jubilee of Your Highness's reign to offer our sincerest homage and most respectful congratulations. In our loyalty and attachment to Your Highness's State and person we yield to none and the joyous feelings with which our hearts are now full cannot find adequate expression in words.

The last 14 years, since Your Highness's attaining majority and investiture with full powers in December 1898, have been marked by prosperity and progress in every direction. Your Highness has personally initiated, directed and controlled widespread reforms in the administration of the State, and has ruled its destinies and guided its steps with an assiduous and unceasing solicitude : and those who have had the privilege to serve in the State have ever been proudly conscious that they were the participators, in however humble a degree, in a system guided by a master-hand and administered by a master-mind.

Among the varied calls and interests of these active years, Your Highness has never despised the dignity of personal labour and, even sometimes at a sacrifice of health, has never shrunk from any toil, which would make for the single end of the efficiency of the administration, the progressive advance of its institutions, and the prosperity and contentment of its people.

We are gratefully conscious of the eminent ability which has led us and directed us, the unfailing courtesy and scrupulous justice which has been shown to us, and the noble example and the high ideals which have been set before us throughout Your Highness's reign : and the deserved esteem in which Your Highness is held by His Imperial Majesty the King-Emperor and the British Government, while it is known far and wide and has been marked by the many honours and distinctions conferred on Your Highness from time to time, is to no one a source of greater gratification than to ourselves, the Officials of Bikaner.

We are proud to be the servants of one whose name and fame are so renowned, whose qualities of mind and heart have been displayed in such high devotion to the welfare of your subjects, and whose example and encouragement have infused us with an earnest determination to work together in a loyal spirit of unity, for we know that by mutual concord, honest endeavour and loyal service we shall be tested, and that according to our deserts we shall be rewarded.

In conclusion, we pray most fervently that further honours and blessings may befall Your Highness, and that Heaven may in its bounty grant you a long life and happy reign over a prosperous and contented people. We beg to subscribe ourselves, Your Highness's Most Humble and Obedient Servants,
The Indian Officials of the State.

(3) By the Maheshwari Sahukars of Bikaner. (Translation.)

To the Glory of the Solar Race, Maharajadhiraj Raj Rajeshwar Narendra Shiromani Colonel His Highness Maharajah Sri Sir Ganga Singhji Bahadur, G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E., A.D.C., LL.D., Sri Jangaldhar Badshah. May it please Your Highness,—We, the Maheshwari Sahukars of the Bikaner City, are greatly delighted at being allowed this opportunity of expressing our joy on the auspicious occasion of Your Highness's Jubilee. The capacity of our words is poor enough to convey the spirit of our sentiments.

Your subjects have enjoyed a full measure of prosperity during these 25 years of Your Highness's reign. Even in these times of change, Your Highness has shown full regard for our time-honoured customs and taken particular interest in the education of the people which is the first means of progress: a good many schools have been started that are working well and attracting the attention of the public. One of the results of your reign is that we have been able to organize a Sabha of our own which is striving to improve our social conditions by fostering amongst us the virtues of loyalty and economy and all that is good according to the modern ideal of life, and by Your Highness's grace we hope for success in our undertaking. Your Highness has well assured our safety and preservation by suitably providing for medical and sanitary institutions. With the installation of the electric light, the extension of roads and the erection of public buildings and gardens, Bikaner is now reckoned among the most attractive places of India. The Railways, Telegraphs, and Post Offices have secured great facility in trade which has made great progress during your auspicious reign. We shall remain ever grateful to Your Highness for these great benefits.

While engaged in business in distant parts of the country our thoughts often return to the land of our birth and to Your Highness, our beloved Master. We hold ourselves greatly honoured when we see Your Highness rising in the estimation of the British Government and invested with various titles of distinction and we take pride in the knowledge that we are the subjects of a great and wise Ruler.

The reforms in the administration have proved very beneficial and we have been highly gratified that our mother-tongue, Hindi, has been given its legitimate place in the working of the Customs and some other Departments. We hope and trust that its use will be extended before long to the remaining offices, and especially to the Judicial.

We are particularly interested in commercial affairs and seeing that commercial education is of supreme value to the State as well as the people we hope that it will always continue to receive Your Highness's particular attention.

In conclusion, we offer Your Highness our respectful congratulations on this auspicious occasion and with folded hands pray that Sri Lakshminathji may daily add to your greatness and long extend over us your benign protection. We beg to remain, Your Highness's Humble and Devoted Subjects, *The Maheshwari Sahukars of Bikaner*.

(4) By the Oswals of Bikaner and other Sahukars of the State. (Translation.)

To the King of the Desert and Glory of the Solar Race Maharajahdhiraj Raj Rajeshwar Narendra Shiramani Colonel His Highness Maharajah Sri Sir Ganga Singhi Bahadur, G. C. S. I., G. C. I. E., A.D. C., LL.D. May it please Your Highness,—We, the Oswals of the Bikaner City and other Sahukars of the State, deem it our great good fortune to have been afforded this opportunity for approaching Your Highness with our congratulations on the auspicious occasion of Your Highness's Jubilee.

We fondly cherish the proud thought that our ancestors formed part of that brave band of followers who came here in the train of the great and illustrious Rao Sri Bikaji of immortal fame.

During these 25 years of Your Highness's blessed reign, the people have enjoyed unprecedented peace and prosperity. We, nay all your subjects, acknowledge gratefully the great and varied efforts made by Your Highness to promote our well-being. For want of space we do not multiply examples to substantiate this statement but content ourselves with a respectful reference to the most excellent arrangements to mitigate human suffering and to save life made by Your Highness during the terrible famine of Samvat 1956.

It is owing to Your Highness's unabating care and benevolence that Bikaner possesses all the modern means of civilization and it is also the result of Your Highness's steady efforts that here the insecurity of life and property has now become a thing of the past, and your poorest subjects can travel unmolested to the remotest corners of the State. The expansion of Railways and the installation of electric light, the laying out of metalled roads and beautiful gardens, the erection of stately public buildings, the opening of hospitals and other institutions for public utility such as schools, and the club and the King Edward Memorial Bazar have added much to the attractiveness of the capital and have very greatly enhanced the happiness of the people.

By Your Highness's favour a part of the administrative work is now being carried on through the medium of Hindi and this has afforded much facility in the conduct of our business. In this connection, we beg to submit that Hindi is our mother-tongue and almost all our work, here and abroad, is done in this language. We therefore firmly hope that Your Highness will graciously extend its use to other departments of the Government.

We are mainly a trading community doing business in far off places, but our grateful feelings are unaffected by distance ; and in remembering our mother land, we are always ready to pay our respectful homage to the great and good Ruler who has shown that he has the completion of our happiness ever at heart.

With full faith in Your Highness's profound sense of justice, we have been ever ready to lay our grievances before Your Highness ; and here we gratefully acknowledge that there has not been a single occasion when our prayers have not been duly regarded.

To whatever parts of India we may betake ourselves, everywhere we hear with a glow of pride the praise of Your Highness's great merits and it is again on account of the qualities of your mind and heart that the British Government has justly conferred so many notable distinctions on Your Highness.

In conclusion, with sincerely grateful hearts, we pray to *Sri Isht Deoji* that He may grant longevity to Your Highness and to the Maharaj Kumars, and that your glory may ever grow like the crescent moon and that we may be blessed with many more returns of this joyful occasion during your noble reign. We beg to subscribe ourselves, Your Highness's Most Humble and Devoted Subjects,
The Oswals of Bikaner and other Sahukars of the State.

(5) By the Brahman Community of the State. (Translation.)

To Maharajadhiraj Raj Rajeshwar Narendra Shiromani Colonel His Highness Maharajah Sri Sir Ganga Singhji Bahadur, G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E., A.D.C., LL.D. May it please Your Highness,—We, the Brahmans of Bikaner, beg leave to approach Your Highness to express our heartfelt joy and sincere congratulations on this very happy and auspicious occasion of the Jubilee of Your Highness's beneficent reign.

According to Mann, the Legislator, the ideal monarch should perform the combined duties of the eight great functionaries of the universe, viz., (1) Indra, the God of Rain, (2) Vayu, the God of Air, (3) Yam, the Disposer of Destiny, (4) Surya, the Sun, (5) Varun, the God of the Sea, (6) Agni, the God of Fire, (7) Chandra, the Moon, and (8) Kuver, the God of Wealth. And it is the august office of the monarch which regulates the different callings and professions of his subjects so as to make them live harmoniously together.

Your Highness's reign approximates to the rule of the great Law-giver : for since Your Highness's accession to the *Gadi* your subjects have been immensely benefited in so very many ways that it is difficult to describe in detail.

The establishment of an organized Judicial Court, of educational and medical institutions, the building and lighting of metalled public roads, the construction of the Public Park, and the opening of railways, all confer a maximum of good upon the people. Owing to these munificent boons the ryots enjoy peaceful and happy lives, and ever thank their Creator for blessing them with so benevolent a Ruler.

In conclusion, we will make particular mention of some of the privileges which the Brahman community has been enjoying under the rule of Your Highness and Your Highness's predecessors, *e.g.*, exemption from payment of *Chauthai*, freedom of our property from *Gaical* (lapse), and we acknowledge with heartfelt thanks the debt of obligation our community owes to the State on this account. For these favours as well as for the boons conferred on the people at large, we acclaim once more our true joy and sincere gratitude; and respectfully offering our congratulations, pray to the Almighty that He may grant long life to Your Highness and to the Maharaj Kumar Sahib and that under Your Highness's benign protection, we may continue to prosper and to enjoy the return of many Jubilees. We beg to subscribe Ourselves, Your Highness's Humble and Devoted Subjects, *The Brahmans of the State*.

(6) By the Pushkarna Brahmans of Bikaner. (Translation.)

To Maharajadhiraj Raj Rajeshwar Narendra Shiromani Colonel His Highness Maharajah Sri Sir Ganga Singhji Bahadur, G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E., A.D.C., LL.D. May it please Your Highness,—We, the Pushkarna Brahmans, thank the Almighty whose grace has allowed us this opportunity of approaching Your Highness to offer our sincere benedictions and our respectful congratulations on the auspicious occasion of Your Highness's Jubilee.

Since Your Highness took the reins of government into your hands, all the four castes have been enjoying real happiness, and general prosperity has greatly increased. The success in the administration of justice, in sanitary arrangements, the expansion of trade and the spread of education has surpassed all expectations. It is also due to Your Highness's favour that Hindi has been introduced in certain departments of the State. This reform has caused us great gratification and we earnestly hope that Your Highness will be pleased to sanction a wider use of our language in the work of the administration.

We all, young and old, are indebted to Your Highness for the great expense of money and labour which you have incurred with the object of furthering the safety and protection of your subjects even to the denial of your personal comfort and enjoyment. The promise made by Your Highness on your accession to the *Gadi* that you would spend your reign in the protection of your subjects and in the observance of duty, has been fulfilled in every detail in accordance with the famous saying that "The descendants of Raghu keep their word even at the risk of life." And this is the main reason why Your Highness holds such an eminent position as a Ruler.

In Your Highness's State the Brahmans enjoy every kind of security and their property never passes to the State even if they die without issue. Also we enjoy certain special privileges unknown to other communities. We are exempt from fees for adoption, *Chauthai*, etc. Moreover we receive pecuniary assistance from the State on the occasion of our marriages. For all this we are sincerely grateful and we are filled with joy at the contemplation of Your Highness's prosperity; for we, the Pushkarnas, were the first among the Brahmans who

came to this land in the company of the famous Rao Sri Bikaji. We have always been treated with deference, and many of us have enjoyed high posts in the State as *Danadhikshas*, *Vaids*, astronomers, teachers, *Katha Bhasas*, officials and preceptors. In return for these services many of us have received various grants for which we and our kinsmen daily remember Your Highness in our prayers to the Deity.

In Your Highness's reign, owing to the spread of education, all people have begun to appreciate highly the value of learning. As a consequence, many societies have come into existence. One of them is a Sabha of ours, started on Saturday the 13th of *Asar Sud*, *Sambat* 1966, whose aims are to encourage education and morals and to preserve the Hindu tenets and ritual founded on the best principles. The Sabha prays for Your Highness's sympathy in this movement.

We have already expressed our gratitude by telegram for what the State did last year with a view to improving the tone of public conduct at the Holi festival. We hope similar attention in future will prove greatly beneficial.

Remembering Your Highness's many kind acts with sincere gratitude and devotion, we earnestly offer our sacred benedictions that Sri Lakshmi Narainji may grant Your Highness and the Maharaj Kumars long life and that Your Highness's prosperity, renown, valour and virtue may ever increase like the crescent moon.

We beg to conclude our prayer with the following *shloka* :—

May Sri Ganga Singhji's life and rule be long

May Victory go with him and his allies

May the glory of his descendants expand like the lustre of the Sun

May the Godless Saraswati kindle his soul with noble thoughts

May the Gods save him and may Lakshmi, the Bestower of wealth, for ever hold him in Her favour.

We beg to remain, Your Highness's ever Loyal and Devoted Subjects,
The Pukharna Brahmans of Bikaner.

(7) By the Jain Svetamber Yatis. (Translation.)

To the most illustrious Scion of the Rathor Family, the best Statesman, Colonel His Highness Maharajadhiraj Raj Rajeshwar Narendra Shriromani Sri Bikannath, Jangidhar Bahadur, Maharaja Sri Sir Ganga Singhji Bahadur. G. C. S. I., G. C. I.E., A.D.C., LL.D. May it please Your Highness,—(*Shloka*). Fortune shines on your forehead; your face shows the beauty of the Moon; your eyes reflect the brightness of Sri Lakshimiji; your hands are adorned with the virtue of giving; victory surrounds your arms as you are steady in war, excellent in your conduct, firm in your determination, and renowned for your love of polite literature.

We, the representatives of the Jain Svetambar Yatis, beg leave to present to Your Highness's valuable time to offer with great deference and respect our sincere congratulations on the occasion of the Jubilee that is being

celebrated in honour of the happy completion of twenty-five years' period of your Highness's benign, peaceful and successful reign ; and we fervently pray to God that Your Highness with your kinsmen may ever continue to grow in power and glory.

Since the time of Your Highness's installation to the *Gadi*, your subjects have been gaining fortune like the new Moon, owing to the spread of education and the growth of confidence which are the source of all progress. They have been provided with all possible means for the security of their well-being and happiness and have decidedly advanced in knowledge, which is due to Your Highness's own taste for learning and to due recognition by your government of the merits of the learned.

Your Highness's noble utterances on several occasions have attracted the attention of the people towards education, and your expressions encouraging the cultivation of our mother-tongue Hindi deserve to be written in the brightest characters.

It is under the influence of your benign reign that we, the Jain *Sadhoos* now feel ourselves more alive to the needs of education so that much good is now being done through our Schools and Libraries. And it is hoped that the society of yatis and the Oswal communities will, in due course, become enlightened and be able to hold their own in respect of their faith, character and loyalty.

We need not take much of Your Highness's precious time in this connection. We trust that Your Highness, being a sincere admirer of science and arts, will always be pleased to ameliorate our condition by helping and encouraging us in our educational activities. We pray that Your Highness and Sri Maharaj Kumar Sahib may enjoy long lives and, spreading peace and happiness, attain to immortal glory.

We beg to remain, Your Highness's Loyal and Humble Subjects,
The Jain Svetamber Yatis.

(8) By the Mohammedans of the State. (Translation.)

To Colonel His Highness Maharajadhiraj Raj Rajeshwar Narenbra Shironani Sri Sir Ganga Singhji Bahadur, G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E., A.D.C., I.L.D. May it please Your Highness,—We, the Mohammedans of Bikaner, cannot adequately thank Your Highness for the honour bestowed upon this section of humble yet most faithful subjects of the State to be allowed to give expression to our genuine feelings of joy, like other more important communities, on this auspicious occasion of Your Highness's Jubilee.

Sir, although in point of numbers, we are an unimportant section of Your Highness's subjects and cannot boast of any achievements in the field of literature and the fine arts, yet Your Highness's kindness makes us bold enough respectfully to state that since the foundation of this State our community has been most loyal and faithful to the Rulers and shall remain so in the future. We are most grateful for those kindnesses and concessions which we have received at the hands of the Rulers of this State, although we cannot pretend to any great capacity or position in social life.

The 25 years of Your Highness's benign reign have been full of acts of kindness and generosity and for those every community is grateful to Your Highness. Likewise, we are proud of saying that we enjoy the same rights and privileges under Your Highness's just rule as our Hindu fellow subjects and that we possess the same opportunities for religious performances and observances as the Hindus. Permit us to state that our relations with the Hindus in this State have been most cordial and friendly, although we regret this cannot be said of the rest of India. The fact that the Hindu and Mohammedan communities of Your Highness's State do not commit any act calculated to wound the religious susceptibilities of each other is mostly due to Your Highness's religious toleration. In Your Highness's reign mosques and places of worship have greatly increased and through Your Highness's kindness our backward community is paying more attention to education, for which schools are springing up in various parts of the State.

Your Highness, we should according to our religious belief, be liable to serious imputation if we did not feel grateful for Your Highness's acts of kindness and generosity done to our community. Your Highness occasionally graces our communal gatherings and grants us land free of any charge for the construction of mosques.

We, Mohammedans, who are a grateful and loyal people, cannot yield to any other community in giving expression to our heartfelt joy at this auspicious occasion of Your Highness's Jubilee. We assure Your Highness that every one of our community from the highest to the lowest is rejoicing on this occasion and prays, as also do our religious leaders, that Your Highness's enlightened rule may continue for ever in growing prosperity and that the present Jubilee may be the forerunner of many such Jubilees. May God bless Your Highness, the Maharaj Kumars, the Ruling Family, and the State.

In conclusion, we respectfully offer Your Highness our sincere congratulations on this most auspicious occasion.

We beg to remain, Your Highness's Most Humble and Faithful Subjects,
The Mohammedans of the State.

(9) By the Sikhs of the State.

To Colonel His Highness Maharajadhiraj Raj Rajeshwar Narendra Shiromani Maharajah Sri Sir Ganga Singhji Bahadur, G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E., A.D.C., LL.D. May it please your most Gracious Highness,—Before venturing to offer our most heartfelt congratulations, we, with the profoundest respect, beg leave to give expression to our hearty thanks to Your Most Noble Highness for having so graciously granted to us an opportunity for presenting our congratulatory Address, notwithstanding the fact that our community is numerically not so strong as the other sections of Your Highness's subjects.

The progress that has been made by our community during the most auspicious rule of Your Highness is such as ever to make us truly proud of it. The Sun of your power has shed its life-giving lustre upon every object but it has enlightened and enlivened us in a special manner, so that we become

hopeful of a better future, when we shall continue to absorb more and more of the energy and light from the life-inspiring rays of our most glorious Sun, *i. e.*, Your most illustrious Highness.

We beg most humbly to be permitted to submit that although our agricultural life and progress date from the period of Your Highness's most illustrious reign, yet our military services and devotion to the Rulers of this State, as borne out by history, date from a very long period before that.

We consider ourselves to be most fortunate because our *humble* and *trifling* services have always been so magnanimously appreciated by Your Most Noble Highness that from this good luck we are made confident that the same treatment will most graciously be accorded to us in the future.

The glorious Sun of Your Highness's most auspicious rule has illumined the darkest corners of every branch of the administration, and brightened it up with progressive reforms.

It is beyond the province of our humble selves, who are the subjects and servants of Your Highness, to give a detail of the reforms achieved in each department, but with the special permission of Your Highness, we would venture to submit, that the Army Department, which we are so justly and sensitively proud of, owes all that is really worth being taken pride in; to the splendid and unique personality of Your Own Most Noble Highness who most harmoniously combines in your august and illustrious self the qualities of a most wide-awake and capable ruler with those of a most gallant soldier, and whose presence in the Army alone is sufficient to stir up courage and gallantry a hundredfold in the hearts of all the rank and file.

We have before our minds' eye the instance of the China Expedition, by joining which personally in your own august self, Your Highness raised our spirits and loyal devotion to the highest pitch and set a most noble and enviable example for the other Ruling Chiefs of India.

Another department is that of agriculture, the improvements made in which are so wonderful that we really cannot find suitable words to describe them. If anybody, who had seen the country before Your Highness took the reins of administration into your own auspicious hands, were to visit it (and specially the *illaga* appertaining to the Suratgarh *Nizamat*) now he would surely be surprised at the transformations worked by Your Highness's most beneficent rule—the miles and miles of uncultivated waste land, which formerly produced only a meagre crop of grass, turned into a smiling and lovely garden. It is due only to Your Highness's special care that all these wastes have been populated and brought under cultivation, and now enrich the ryots by supplying them with all sorts of produce in both the harvests. Under the auspicious rule of Your Highness our community has not only distinguished itself in military service, but it has also rendered services in the direction of agriculture—and in this respect we feel ourselves the more fortunate because the indigenous section of Your Highness's subjects have followed our example in agriculture.

Under Your Highness's beneficent generosity we are thoroughly convinced that the times are not far off when the country will be made more flourishing and fertile by the introduction of canal irrigation, which would enable our community to make further progress in agriculture.

Your Highness! There is no heart which can help beating with unbounded pleasure and rejoicing spontaneously at the JUBILEE of so auspicious and blessed a rule, when even inanimate objects reflect nothing but contented peace, happiness and good-will. It was, therefore, impossible that, under these circumstances we, the members of the Sikh Community, who as subjects of Your Highness are connected with the Military Department and the agricultural enterprise of the State, should not give expression to the feelings of our heart. We, therefore, earnestly beg to offer our most hearty congratulations on the auspicious occasion of the JUBILEE of Your Highness, and most sincerely pray that the Great Guru Maharaj may grant Your Highness long life, health and prosperity and spare Your Most August Person and ever shed lustrous rays of peace, prosperity and protection upon Sri Maharaj Kumar Sahib, the entire Ruling Family, and all your humble subjects, and that our community may continue in its progressive career by serving Your Highness with loyalty and devotion! We beg to remain, Your Highness's Most Humble and Loyal Subjects, *The Sikh Community of Bikaner.*

(10) By the Nagri Bhandar Society of Bikaner. (Translation.)

Jaya Jangal Dhar Badshah. To the foremost among illustrious Rulers of stately strength, valour and power, Maharajadhiraj Raj Rajeshwar Narendra Shiromani Jangal Dhar Badshah. Colonel His Highness Maharajah Sri Sir Gangsinghji Bahadur, G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E., A.D.C., LL.D. May it please Your Highness,—We, the Members of the "Nagri Bhandar" Society of Bikaner, beg most humbly to approach Your Highness, in the midst of general rejoicings, sweet to all, to offer our loyal and respectful congratulations on the most auspicious occasion of Your Highness's Jubilee. This festival marks the completion of 25 years of your reign, conspicuous for its continued peace, happiness and success.

Your Highness's reign has been the forerunner of a higher fortune for the people of the State, who have all profitted by the means made available for their progress. Once slow to learn, under Your Highness's fostering care we have been steadily gaining light. With the manifold achievements of your rule in promoting the happiness of your subjects, a great purpose has been served by the wider diffusion of the knowledge of the Hindi language. One of the fruits of this is the "Nagri Bhandar," which was started in 1909 to fill the keenly-felt want of a public library for Nagri readers whose number of late owing to the forces of education has risen considerably. During this period some 2,500 (twenty-five hundred) volumes have been provided for the Library which also subscribes for some thirty-five of the best Hindi journals. Excluding the numerous supporters and admirers of this institution, there are, at present, some two hundred members of the Society from the various classes of the people, with Maharaj Sri Boman Singhji, C.S.I., as its President. It is specially gratifying that since the establishment of the "Bhandar" the public have shown a greater interest in the development of the Hindi language and now many persons have begun to learn it who could not have afforded to do so at our earlier period.

Sir, since Your Highness has taken the reins of government into your hands, Your Highness has given particular attention to the question of Hindi. It has been Your Highness's wish that, as far as possible, the State work should be carried on through the medium of this language, and a signal success has been attained in the Hindi work of several departments. The State "Rajpatra" is now published in Hindi, and in recent years numerous enactments, circulars, forms and registers, etc., have been issued in the same characters. Again, in the same are now kept the records of the Revenue Department prepared by the Patwaris, as in your speech of 29th September 1910, Your Highness was pleased to observe that "The Patwaris' papers have been ordered to be prepared in Hindi with the object of enabling the people to understand the entries and to protect them against deception and fraud by unscrupulous persons." These words of a just and benevolent ruler like Your Highness deserve to be written in letters of gold and constitute a veritable cause of pride to your people. And, Sir, realizing the great significance of these very words as evidence of Your Highness's solicitude for the protection of the ryots, we hope—nay, we firmly believe—that the day is not long when the entire vernacular work of our State would be carried on in Hindi, and when the literate community will be able to read, write and to understand their own business at the courts. Prompted by a keen longing to see and welcome that day and encouraged by the enthusiasm of this great occasion, we trust to Your Highness's indulgent mood and respectfully venture to submit to Your Highness the request that now is the opportunity of greatly advancing the well-being of our State if Your Highness were to be graciously pleased to order that the vernacular portion of the process and proceedings of all offices should be exclusively written in Hindi characters, and that, as far as practicable, within a given time.

Besides its literary and moral aims, the Nagri Bhandar Society has been ever mindful to foster the feeling of loyalty to the Sovereign and on suitable occasions it has held celebrations and communicating its sentiments to Your Highness, by graciously accepting which Your Highness has extended to us great encouragement. For all this, we stand indebted for ever. Our Society holds it an honour that by Your gracious permission we have been able thus to wait upon Your Highness to-day, and we embrace this opportunity to pray that Your Highness may be pleased to have your illustrious name associated with the "Nagri Bhandar" as its Patron.

In conclusion, we beg leave to offer Your Highness our profound congratulations of the occasion and pray that the Almighty Sri Lakshminathji may grant longevity to you and to Sri Maharaj Kumar Sahib, and by the good grace of the Great Mother Sri Karniji we may, during your reign, frequently hail the return of such occasions for joy and thankfulness. We beg to subscribe ourselves, Your Highness's Humble and Devoted Servants, *The Members of the Nagri Bhandar.*

(11) By the Gunprakashak Sajjanalaya Sabha. (Translation.)

To Maharajadhiraj Raj Rajeshwar Narendra Shiromani, Colonel His Highness Maharajah Sri Sir Ganga Singhji Bahadur, G. C. S. I., G. C. I. E., A.D.C., LL.D., Jangal Dhar Badshah.—May it please Your Highness,—We, the members of the "Gunprakashak Sajjanalaya Sabha," respectfully approach Your Highness to offer our loyal congratulations on behalf of our Society, on the most auspicious occasion of Your Highness's Jubilee.

This is an occasion of general rejoicings for all Your Highness's subjects and our delight in this Festival is second to none. During Your Highness's reign we have enjoyed many facilities for improvement, and various institutions for the good of the people have been established. These are in a highly prosperous condition and owe their success mainly to Your Highness's sympathy and support.

The capital, being provided with electric light, broad roads, beautiful public buildings and gardens, is now reckoned among the most important places of India. Owing to the introduction of the Railway and the Telegraph, the State has been brought into close touch with the different parts of the country, which is very beneficial to us all. These ends have been secured by Your Highness out of pure love for your subjects.

This Society has existed for nearly eleven years. During that period it has tried its best to create the love of learning, and to foster the feelings of loyalty and patriotism. It has attained some success in its efforts, and now it is pleasing to see people reading in every home, where some time ago they little cared even to acquire a sound elementary knowledge of their mother-tongue. We hope for much more good to come out of it, and that many more benefits will accrue from our exertions.

We gratefully acknowledge Your Highness's sympathy with our Society. Your Highness was pleased to honour us by presenting your portrait to adorn the new hall of the 'Sajjanalaya,' and we cannot be sufficiently grateful for this evidence of Your Highness's interest in our welfare.

In conclusion, we offer our congratulations and earnestly pray to God to grant long lives to Your Highness and to the Maharaj Kumars, and we hope that we may be spared to see many such festivals in Your Highness's reign. We beg to remain, Your Highness's Most Humble and Devoted Subjects, *The Members of the "Gunprakashak Sajjanalaya Sabha."*

(12) By the Trustees of the Moha Mool Chand Vidyalaya. (Translation.)

To Colonel His Highness Maharajadhiraj Raj Rajeshwar Narendra Shiromani Maharajah Sri Sir Ganga Singhji Bahadur, G.C.S.I., G. C. I. E., A.D.C., LL.D.—May it please Your Highness,—We, the Trustees of the "Moha Mool Chand Vidyalaya," beg to approach Your Highness to offer on behalf of ourselves and the teachers and students of the Vidyalaya our congratulations on the auspicious occasion of the Jubilee of Your Highness—our just, loving, wise and enlightened Ruler.

During the quarter of a century of Your Highness's beneficent rule, immense progress has been made in the State in every direction. It is our good fortune that in Your Highness we have been blessed with a highly cultured and philanthropic ruler. The opening of schools in the towns and large villages of the State, the establishment of a Nobles' School at the capital, the construction of a spacious building for the Durbar High School and the resolution for raising it to the status of a college, together with the establishment of many other useful institutions are good examples of Your Highness's care for education and solicitude for the people's welfare. Owing to the keen interest which Your Highness takes in schemes for educational improvement, your princely liberality is not confined to Your Highness's State but is extended to other parts of the country—a fact which is gratefully acknowledged by the people. To the proposed Hindu University of Benares, Your Highness, of all the Ruling Princes in the country, was the first to give substantial help by associating yourself with the movement; and Your Highness was graciously pleased to take the chair in the memorable grand public meeting held in Calcutta to advance its cause.

Your Highness's subjects, awakened to the benefits of education, have set up in various places private schools, literary societies, libraries and reading rooms, &c., and one of these is this "Mohta Mool Chand Vidyalaya." The aim of this Vidyalaya is to impart free education to boys in such branches of knowledge as will make them fit for a mercantile career, to enable them to earn their living. For this purpose Hindi, which is the language not only of the State but also of a large portion of India, and in which different subjects can be taught with great facility, has been adopted as the principal language and the medium of instruction in the Vidyalaya. Besides this a practical knowledge of English, the rudiments of Science, Arithmetic and Book-keeping according to our own method, are taught and special care is taken by means of prayers and sermons to inspire into the hearts of children Love of God and Loyalty to their Sovereign. While by means of physical exercises, games, and sports due consideration is paid to their physical training.

Your Highness, we now most humbly beg once more to express our heartfelt joy and to offer our sincere congratulations to Your Highness on this happy occasion and we fervently pray that Sri Lakshmi Narainji may grant long life to and shower His choicest blessings upon Your Highness and Sri Maharaj Kumar Sahib and that Your Highness's *Ram Rajya* may further advance in prosperity and that more such happy Jubilees of Your Highness's reign may be celebrated in the future. We beg to remain, Your Highness's Most Humble and Devoted Subjects, *The Trustees of the "Mohta Mool Chand Vidyalaya."*

(13) By the Bar Association of Bikaner. (Translation.)

To Colonel His Highness Maharajadhiraj Raj Rajeshwar Narendra Shiromani Maharajah Sri Sir Ganga Singhji Bahadur, G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E., A.D.C., LL.D.— May it please Your Highness,—We, the Members of the Bar Association, deem it our great good fortune to be afforded this opportunity, the second of its kind (the first being on the occasion of Your Highness's investiture with the insignia of the G. C. I. E.) to approach Your Highness with this address of congratulation on the auspicious occasion of Your Highness's Jubilee.

When we remember the many blessings of Your Highness's noble reign, the enthusiasm of our rejoicings is so great that we do not know how to express the feelings of our hearts with proper restraint.

The lustre of Your Highness's rule, like the light of the Sun, defies all attempts at exaggeration. Your Highness's personal attention has achieved many brilliant successes in the administration of the State. The Revenue Board and the Chief Court perform their functions admirably. By the speedy expansion of the railway system the large territories of Bikaner, once difficult to reach, have been made easily accessible to the outside world. And the day is near when the country will be rendered prosperous by irrigation through the construction of a canal.

We should be ungrateful if we did not acknowledge the great efforts made by Your Highness to promote the welfare of your subjects. Your Highness's unabated interest in the work of administration and Your Highness's ceaseless care and industry in devising plans for the well-being of the ryots awaken our admiration, while the distinguished honours which have been conferred on Your Highness evince the great esteem in which Your Highness is held by the British Crown.

Though it is beyond our province, yet we trust we may be pardoned if we respectfully assert that we and the Judicial Department of the State are proud of the fact that even-handed justice is the invariable concomitant of Your Highness's distinguished reign. It is Your Highness's strong sense of justice which strengthens and upholds every judge and officer in the State.

We should also be failing in our duty if we omitted respectfully to acknowledge the special favours and concessions which we have received at Your Highness's hands from time to time. We do not remember any occasion where we, the Members of the Bar Association, have not been treated with special consideration. We have always been presented to distinguished guests of the State. Not only are we given facilities in the conduct of our work, but we are also honoured by being allowed to take part in several Committees and the Administrative Conference of the State, and we are especially grateful that Your Highness has invariably shown due regard for our opinion and we venture to assure Your Highness that our hearts are loyal and grateful.

We do not know how to thank Your Highness for your princely clemency. May God always bestow unbounded prosperity upon Your Highness's reign and may He preserve in his Almighty keeping the Maharaj Kumars, the Ruling Family, your people and us who pray; and may Your Highness's reign be graced with many such Jubilee celebrations.

In conclusion, we ask Your Highness's pardon for having taken up so much of Your Highness's valuable time and while offering our enthusiastic yet respectful congratulations, we close our address with the following lines:—

Victory to the "Lord of the Desert, the Dika Rathore." May the celebration of His Jubilee be successful.

May His Jubilee be again celebrated on the 50th, 60th, and 100th years of His reign. And may His people ever rejoice.

May The Sun of His Royal greatness always remain high above the crown of Khuro.

May His power and wealth always increase and His justice gain repute.
The Vakils thus ever pray for Your Highness and exclaim
"Khama Anndata of the Solar Race, descended from Bika."

We beg to subscribe ourselves, Your Highness's Most Loyal and Devoted Subjects,
The Members of the Bar Association, Bikaner.

Speech delivered by Lt.-Colonel E. St. A. Wake, I. A., at the Banquet given to His Highness the Maharajah by the British residents of Bikaner on 28th September, 1912.

To-night marks the end of the celebration of the actual Jubilee of His Highness the Maharajah of Bikaner, and it is fitting that, while for the past week his subjects have united in testifying to their loyalty and devotion, we, who, though not sons of the soil, have eaten his salt, should show ourselves, if the last yet not the least sincere in our congratulations and good wishes.

I do not propose to recount the history of the past 25 years—the most momentous epoch in the annals of Bikaner—but I will ask you to bear in mind that for 15 years out of the 25, the whole burden has rested on the shoulders of our honoured guest.

If the toil has been his, his too must be the results and the credit. We have seen many reforms carried out and many more planned. We have watched His Highness in his daily wrestle with the growing accumulation of work, and personally direct and inspire every department in his State. We have seen palaces and pleasure gardens spring from the desert, and mud hovels transformed into avenues of carved stone. We have stood by while he broke records in sport, led his troops in the field, and took his place among the premier Princes of India round the King-Emperor.

In all his plans and enterprises he has claimed the services of English officers, and I dare assert that, with rare exceptions, all have repaid him with loyal service and hearty appreciation. Of the wide hospitality he has offered to us all and the friendship with which he has honoured many it does not become me to speak.

Gentlemen, I ask you to drink to the health, long life and prosperity of His Highness the Maharajah.

Replies of His Highness the Maharajah to the several addresses.

(1) To the Sirdars.

Sirdars of Bikaner.—I have received your loyal address with great pleasure, and I thank you most warmly for the sentiments which you have expressed, and for the very beautiful casket which I shall value not only for itself but, what is more than this, as a memento of this occasion and as an outward sign of the feelings which binds us together, and as a token of your cordial good-will.

The last 25 years have, as you say, been marked by many changes. I hope and believe that they have worked and will work for the improvement of the administration and the prosperity and contentment of all. Progress and changes, I know, are viewed by some with misgivings. Old and cherished customs, old methods of life, are slowly but surely giving place to new. And whether the past is as precious—and deservedly precious—as it is to us Rajputs, we cannot but regret the loss of any link that binds us to it.

We are proud of our traditions—traditions of courtesy, of courage, and of chivalry—and we are proud also of, what to many may seem old-fashioned, our ceremonies, our rules of conduct, and our family customs, and I have always tried, as I know that every true Rajput has tried, to preserve our traditions and to keep up the high standard of the Rajput ideals, ideals which will never be out of date. We must, however, recognize that times have changed; we must try to combine what is best in the past with what is best in modern life and habits, and to aim at what is best for the future. While no one loves and clings to the traditions of our race more fondly than myself, yet I am conscious that there is a danger of Rajputs falling behind in the competition of modern conditions. This ought not, and must not, be allowed to happen: it rests with you, Sirdars, to take the lead in checking this tendency. Rajputs have shown in recent times that they can still hold their position as soldiers as they have held it all through history, but under the *Pax Britannica* fighting is now, unfortunately for warriors, of rare occurrence, and we cannot therefore all be soldiers only; we must turn our activities into other channels and not be content to rest on our laurels. It is not only in the battlefield that you can show your loyalty to myself and the State, but in every field where manly endeavour can find a scope.

In all departments of the State administration I have tried to give the preference in my appointments to those who were born and bred in Bikaner. My motto in this has been "Bikaner for the Bikaneris." It is for you to fit yourselves, by taking advantage of the facilities of education that are offered to you, to take an active part in the State administration as becomes the natural leaders of the people in the State. If Bikaneris are going to retain positions of authority in Bikaner, and Rajputs in Rajputana, they must train themselves to be fitted to exercise high powers and responsibilities; for not only is the field before them unlimited but the openings are unique. Speaking generally, qualified candidates from amongst the local men are in great demand all over the Rajputana States: the Rulers and the States will, I am sure, welcome them with open arms, and you will be doubly welcomed in that you already possess one great qualification—loyalty to your Rulers, and through them loyalty to His Imperial Majesty the King Emperor, who rules over this mighty Empire. It is a matter of great pride to me, and I am sure it is a matter of no less pride to you, to think that the British Throne possesses no more loyal adherents throughout the length and breadth of the Empire than the people of Rajputana, and that in no part of Rajputana are there more loyal Rajputs than we of Bikaner.

You have referred in your address to the desirability of extending the use of Hindi throughout the State departments, and you will have been gratified at the announcement which was made this morning in connection with this subject.

Sirdars, I deeply appreciate the terms of your address, and I cordially reciprocate the feelings to which you have given expression.

(2) To the Indian Officials.

Gentlemen,—It has given me very great pleasure to receive your address and I wish to thank you sincerely for all the kindly words which it contains and for the handsome casket which accompanies it, and above all for the loyal spirit which has prompted it.

I attach special importance to your testimony to the results of whatever I have been able to do for the benefit of the people and the administration, and for the position of the officials of the State, during the last 14 years, since I feel that appreciation from you, who are so closely associated with the administration of the State and are therefore best qualified to judge, is of the highest value; and further because I believe, and I do not think any one will contradict me when I say so, that you represent a body of officials who in ability, integrity and industry would on the whole take a high place among any similar bodies anywhere in India. At the same time I cannot myself justly take all the credit for these achievements; for the chief share of the credit is due to you, officials of the State, whether residents of Bikaner or foreign territory, and it could never have been achieved without your loyal co-operation, untiring energy and ungrudging hard work.

If at times I have appeared to be a hard task-master, I would ask you to believe that I have been actuated solely by the desire to do the best we can for the State and my people. In all efficient administrations periods of high pressure of work are bound to occur; and, as you know, on all such occasions, I have taken my full and fair share in the work involved, and your reference to this in your address I wish to gratefully acknowledge.

There may still be, no doubt are, weak spots in our armour, for nothing human is perfect, and we have much yet to achieve, but I think that we can congratulate ourselves on the not unsubstantial progress we have already made and on an almost complete disappearance of those factions and intrigues against which I have always waged war, and which were till a comparatively recent date of not infrequent occurrence.

No words in your address have given me more pleasure than those in which you speak of the importance of working together in a spirit of unity. I earnestly hope that you will combine to maintain the present harmonious working of the administrative machine. I believe that the intriguer and the backbiter has generally been found out sooner or later, while on the other hand I have always tried to reward good and tried service ungrudgingly. I am glad that it has already been possible for me to do something to improve the position and the conditions of service of our officials: and I hope to be able to do more. I have a profound belief in the delegation of powers to officers of the State. Measures for further decentralization are adopted almost every year, and the extent to which powers can be further delegated depend on the fitness of the officers to exercise higher powers and responsibilities.

And in this connection I wish to refer to one whose valuable services we shall, to my great regret, be losing in a few days on account of ill-health, one who in the two years he has been with us, has been a model which no one could do better than imitate. I refer, of course, to Rai Bahadur Babu Sanwal Das, the Revenue Member of Council. Holding, as he has held, two of the highest positions in the administration, he has by his high ability, his unfailing devotion to duty, and his sterling character, won the respect and affection of all who know him. I wish him many years of health and happiness on his retirement.

You have remarked that it is by careful and faithful work that you will be tested and rewarded. And in the same way it is by oppressing the people, of whose welfare you are the guardians, by quarrelling and intriguing among yourselves, and by disloyalty to your superiors that you have it in your power to impair the fabric of our government and to destroy the edifice that has been built up by me and you with such care and labour.

I feel that it is hardly necessary for me to here appeal to you, gentlemen, to guard against these dangers, to keep the administration up to that high standard which, thanks to you, it has now attained, and to work with me for its further and continuous advancement under God's Providence.

(3) To other Deputations.

Gentlemen,—I cannot express to you how gratified I have been at receiving so many loyal addresses from bodies representing, as you do, practically every different community, whether religious or social, in Bikaner; and while I am sure that you will realise that the time at our disposal will not allow of my replying separately to each deputation, I am equally sure that you will understand that I am no less appreciative of the significance of this manifestation of loyalty, confidence and good-will.

Maheshtris, Oswals and other Sahukars of Bikaner. Your fortunes have long been associated with those of Bikaner. You have been conspicuous for your allegiance, your acts of charity and philanthropy, and your law-abiding character. No one rejoices more at your prosperity than I do, and I am glad that I have been able to help you to continue the expansion of your renowned trade and commerce by the extension of facilities of communication and by affording protection to your persons and property, and by listening to and adjusting any grievances that you may have had.

I have been deeply touched by the many acts of patriotism and public spirit evinced by many members of your community throughout the State. Many of you have presented large sums of money to me aggregating already to about three lakhs of rupees on the occasion of the Jubilee. In accepting these sums I wish to thank you most cordially for this further manifestation of your patriotism, and I would inform you that I have decided to devote these sums, as a memento of the Jubilee, to public purposes, such as Educational and Medical institutions and other works of a public nature. I feel sure that you will agree with me that no better use could have been made of such presents.

I have also to acknowledge another public service which your community has rendered, viz., the raising of a large sum of money for the *Pinjraparol* where infirm bulls and cows are given a friendly shelter. This will put the *Pinjraparol* on a sound footing. You have, I believe, collected some two lakhs of rupees for this charitable purpose already, and I hope you will be successful in realising the remainder of the requisite amount. The State has gladly handed over the present *Pinjraparol* buildings and the management of the institution to you with certain safeguards as to its future efficient working, and you have my best wishes for the success of your undertaking. I have much pleasure in acceding to your request that the reconstituted *Pinjraparol* institution should be named after and associated with the Jubilee.

Members of the Brahman, Yati, Mohammedan and Sikh Communities.

Your expressions of confidence and allegiance are specially welcome as you represent important creeds which have united to do me honour and to testify to your goodwill.

You, Brahmans, have always enjoyed the special protection of the State, and for the future it rests with you to justify and retain your position and privileges as the guardians of ancient learning by your pre-eminence in the domains of literature and of thought. You may be assured that in that case the State on its part will not forget its duty towards you.

Members of the Swetamber Yati Mandal. Your community—the Jains—is one which has always deserved and received esteem and honour. You have done much to maintain the high standard of the Oswals as a law-abiding, peaceable, and respected body, and I much appreciate the compliment you have paid me by presenting this address.

Your words, Members of the Mohammedan Deputation, have given me special pleasure to listen to: for it does you great credit, which I am not slow to recognise, that in spite of the comparative smallness of your numbers you have, by this manifestation of your loyalty and good-will, given clear proof that you realize that I have tried to act impartially to all alike, whatever their creed: and it is gratifying to hear from your own lips that you recognize that you share with the members of other religions all the privileges of equal treatment, equal laws and justice, and equal freedom from interference, in your religious and social customs, subject only to the restriction (which also does not apply to you alone, but to all persons of all religions alike) that no one creed shall wound the religious feelings or prejudices of the others. You are, and shall remain, with this proviso, free to observe all the practices of your religion. It is my earnest hope that as in the past, you will in the future continue to maintain those harmonious and friendly relations with your fellow subjects of the Hindu and other religions which has been such a happy feature in the State and that there will be no signs in Bikaner of even a temporary rupture similar to those disturbances—happily rare—which in the past few years have by their occurrence caused so much anxiety to the government as well as the people in British India. And I am sure you join with me in hoping that this unhappy feature will soon disappear in the other parts of India also, in accordance with

the gracious wish expressed by His Imperial Majesty the King Emperor on the day of his departure from India—a wish which has, on more than one occasion been publicly echoed by His Excellency the Viceroy.

I would apply the same remarks, and extend an equal welcome, to you Members of the Sikh community. You have for many years, though small in numbers, taken a high place among the inhabitants of Bikaner on account of your conspicuous services to the State and its Rulers. Coming, as you do, of a famous warlike race, you have been well represented in the Military forces of the State and have distinguished yourselves both here in Bikaner and in foreign lands. In 1201 the Sikhs of Bikaner numbered 1,481; in 1911 they had grown to 8,214. I am glad that your population in the State has increased so largely in recent years, and that you have taken up agriculture with energy and success. You have been in the past conspicuous for your loyalty to the British Throne and Government, and I hope that you will always prove yourselves true to your traditions and will follow in the footsteps of your ancestors in this respect and retain the confidence and regard of all who have to deal with you, whether in Bikaner or in British territory.

Members of the Nagri Bhandar Society. I am acquainted with the literary and moral aims which your society is designed to promote, and I have every hope that representing, as you do, such praiseworthy objects, you will continue to prosper and to spread the influence of culture over a yet wider field. Your aims are non-political, and your loyalty is undoubted. I have much appreciated the terms of your address, and I am glad that, by the announcement this morning that the use of Hindi will in future be further extended, I have been able to gratify a wish so dear to your hearts and to those of the majority of the people, as appears from the terms of several of the other addresses to which I have listened to-day. I have much pleasure in acceding to your request that I should become a patron of your society.

Members of the Gunprakashak Sajjanalaya Sabha. Your society like the Nagri Bhandar society is concerned with the promotion of literary culture, and the remarks which I have addressed to them and my wishes for their prosperity, apply equally to you.

Trustees of the Mohan Mul Chand Vidyalaya. Your excellent institution has, as you know, my best wishes. You have referred to my interest in education, and I can assure you that there are few objects which I desire and have tried to encourage more assiduously than the spread of knowledge. It is one of the most hopeful features of recent years that men of leading in this City and in other parts of the State are supplementing the State schools by the foundation of private institutions worked on thoroughly efficient lines. As representing this tendency you have by your address afforded me great pleasure.

Members of the Bar Association. I have much appreciated the terms of your address, and I am glad that you on your part have appreciated the results of the changes in the administration in recent years. You have rendered useful services to the State in the past by your attendance at administrative conferences and by contributing to the discussion and settlement of several important administrative measures. The members of your learned profession have it in their power to do an incalculable amount of good and prevent an incalculable amount of harm to the community at large. I am glad to think that your influence in

Bikaner has been on the whole a healthy one in the past and I am confident that it will continue to be for good and will be exerted for the protection of the people from injustice.

Gentlemen, I will not detain you longer and again I thank you most sincerely for the loyal sentiments to which you have given expression, and for the beautiful caskets and illuminated addresses which I shall keep as mementos of this happy occasion and as tokens of your respect and good-will.

Speech delivered by His Highness the Maharajah at the
Opening of the Dungar College, 25th September, 1912.

Gentlemen,—It is nearly three and a half years ago that I last had the pleasure of presiding over the annual celebration and prize distribution of this school, and though for various reasons I regret that I have not been able to do so in person in the last two years, yet it is perhaps not inappropriate that I should have been able on two successive occasions to announce the inception and the completion of the purpose which we see embodied before us to-day, and that the celebrations in honour of my twenty-five years' reign should include a ceremony of this kind, which is concerned with an institution which is not only one in which I am deeply interested, but which bears the name of His late Highness—my dear and revered Brother.

You have just heard from Pandit Krishna Shanker Tiwari's address some of the reasons which have made so appropriate the association of this institution with the name of His late Highness Maharajah Sri Dungar Singhji Bahadur. As I said in 1909, we can never forget that it was due to the wise policy which His late Highness laid down that our present educational system owes its original stimulus and its very existence, and above all that it was in His late Highness's reign that the teaching of English was first started in the State, and no more fitting memorial to his name, and none that he would have desired or appreciated more, could be conceived than this stately and beautiful building, which it is my earnest prayer may stand for many years as a token of love and affection towards him whose name it bears, as a landmark of progress and enlightenment, and as an outward and visible sign of the interest of the Rulers of Bikaner in all that concerns the welfare of their people.

Among these, our interest in education holds a high place, and I am glad to say that since His late Highness's lamented demise, twenty-five years ago, we have been able to carry on still further the progress which he did so much to foster.

In 1898-99 when I came of age, the number of State schools in Bikaner was 28, it is now 43; the number of pupils has also increased considerably; besides this there are now 78 private institutions with 3,915 pupils, which points to the steady and gratifying interest now manifested in education by private persons throughout the State.

The cause of education suffers under certain grave disadvantages in Bikaner, the sparse population and the vast distances between the villages, and the natural apathy of the people in rural tracts, present peculiar difficulties.

but the figures I have quoted speak for themselves. We have progressed and are progressing, and with a view to a still further advance along the same lines, I have sanctioned further educational measures which were announced yesterday at the Durbar in the list of boons, and I hope they will be appreciated and taken full advantage of by the public.

I congratulate the staff and students on this School being raised to the status of a College, and I hope that the requisite number of scholars will be forthcoming at once so as to enable the First Year Class to be opened without delay. I am sure the State and the Educational Department are also to be congratulated on the special appointment, as Director of Education, of Mr. Herbert Sherring, Vice-Principal of the Mayo College, Ajmer, who will be with us in a few weeks. Owing to my frequent visits to the Mayo College as a Member of the College Council and Managing Committee, not only is this officer well known to me as an experienced educationist, with a wide knowledge of Rajputana, but I can further speak of him as an intimate personal acquaintance, as he was on the staff of the Mayo College when as a boy I was prosecuting my studies there, and I have every hope that his experience and abilities will be of the greatest advantage to the cause of education in the State.

I hope that the future will see a still greater advance—an advance which will be marked not only by more favourable statistics, but what is even more important—by the high general level of the instruction imparted, by a raising of the status, and thus an improvement of the class of teachers, and by infusing into our education a tone of lofty principles and a standard of noble ideals.

For it is by its “tone,” even more than by the standard of its intellectual instructions, that the value of a school can be gauged, and it is by the character of the boys rather than by their ability to pass examinations that it can do most for society. I do not wish to belittle the value of intellectual training. No one admires intellect more than I do. But intellect without character is of little avail, and character in boys can only be developed by the moral influence of their teachers, by the encouragement of the manly qualities, and by rigorous discipline. I want the Dungar College, as it will henceforward be called, to be a model to other educational institutions in these respects, and to turn out useful and self-reliant members of society.

Gentlemen, it has been a great pleasure to me to listen to the Head Master's interesting account of progress in every direction, and I congratulate him on the same, and I much appreciate his eloquent words of loyalty and congratulations on behalf of the staff and the students of this College. I wish him and the Dungar College good luck, and will now proceed to open the new building.

Speech delivered by His Highness the Maharajah at the Prize Distribution
of the Walter Nobles' School, 27th September 1912.

I have listened with much pleasure to the report for the present year. And I wish to thank the staff and students of the Nobles' School for their loyal

sentiments of welcome and of congratulation on the completion of the 25 years which have passed since my accession.

Though I need not remind you of the interest which I have always taken in the school, the occasion is one on which I may perhaps recall a few facts in connection with its origin and growth.

I believe it is a fact that the idea of establishing a Nobles' School in Bikaner originated with me. I saw the Jodhpur Nobles' School at Mount Abu in the early nineties, and even in those days I was struck with the desirability of having a similar institution started in Bikaner.

This school was opened in 1893 with the idea of educating and training the young nobles of Bikaner, by Mr., now Sir Charles, Bayley who was then the Political Agent.

On my taking up the reins of Government, the curriculum was remodelled and extended, and in September 1901 the institution, which was not working satisfactorily, was re-organized wholesale.

The personnel of the staff was improved and increased, and the school was, I hope, placed on a sound basis.

The changes introduced met with a rapid response. The number of boys rose within two months from 34 to 48, and they have now reached the century.

In games the school's record has been all that could be desired. In the local football tournament the team has been successful, time after time, in winning the challenge cups. The boys have also won several cups in the different events in the Rajputana School Sports. I attribute much of this success to the drill which the boys are taught and to the careful system of games supervision under a capable instructor, but perhaps it is to be attributed even more to the natural love of out-door games and sports and to the soldier-like qualities which are the inheritance of all Rajputs, and which have done so much to keep them strong and healthy.

The report which we have listened to is, on the whole, a satisfactory one. The weak spot is the lowest class, and the comparative falling off in games is due, I understand, entirely to the very large number of young boys in the school. This is a defect for which no one is to blame. But I think we can congratulate the Head Master and his colleagues on a year of all-round success. I hope, however, that you will all, masters and boys alike, not be content with standing still. Your numbers are high, I want them to be higher still; your record is a good one, I want you to improve it.

At the same time you must beware of one danger—do not let your love of results induce you to strive entirely for results. To keep the balance level between your attention to books and your attention to games, to form noble traditions and to live up to them, to turn out each year a fresh supply of loyal, efficient, strong and courteous young men, fitted to hold their own in some useful sphere of activity—this is what you must aim at, and by this you will entirely justify your existence.

His Highness the Maharajah's reply at the Banquet given by
British residents of Bikaner, 23rd September, 1912.

Colonel Wake, Ladies and Gentlemen,—I desire to thank very warmly the British members of the Victoria Memorial Club for the banquet which they have given me to-night, and you Colonel Wake for the kindly words in which you have proposed my health, and I need hardly say how gratified I am at the sentiments you have expressed in proposing my health.

There have been many acts and manifestations of good-will, loyalty and devotion in the past week, of which I shall always cherish the recollection ; but I can assure you that I shall prize no less this sign of the good-will and the congratulations of the important British community in my State.

Colonel Wake has, I fear, been too generous in attributing certain qualities and results to me, to which I can hardly lay claim. Whatever success has been achieved is due, as I have said on two occasions in the last week, to the loyal co-operation, untiring energy and ungrudging hard work of the officers of the State in which the British officers have vied with their Indian brother officers in giving me their best services, and I should like to take this opportunity of gratefully acknowledging the same.

Ladies and Gentlemen, I have on more than one occasion said that the State can boast of officers second to none in ability and experience, and my remarks apply both to the European and Indian officials. At no time could this have been more truly stated than the present.

We Indians—and specially we Rajputs—are not slow to show our gratitude where it has been earned, and we never forget good work and faithful services where they have been rendered.

To-night, however, my remarks have special reference to the British officers of the State—our hosts of this evening.

Foremost among them comes the name of my friend Colonel Wake, who has put me and indeed the whole State under an obligation by the conscientious manner in which he is performing the responsible and onerous task of educating the Maharaj Kumar and training him to be able, when the time comes, to do his duty as the Ruler of this State. In addition to his duties proper, I and the Bikaner State and its administration will long remember the excellent and most valuable work which he has also done as a member of the Board of Revenue no less than as President of the Municipal Board of the capital.

Colonel Wake in the speech proposing my health has in his modesty given me credit for 'mad hovel's being transformed into avenues of carved stone.' I cannot let this statement go unchallenged. The construction of the avenues of carved stone is due entirely to Colonel Wake, and I am quite sure every one who has watched the progress of this work has been struck with the masterly manner in which the President of the Municipality has organized everything and the rapidity with which the King Edward Memorial road has sprung up. It seems as if Colonel Wake must have at his disposal an "Aladdin's magic lamp" which he has not revealed to any of us. As a mark of my regard and of the gratitude of the City of Bikaner, I have decided to name another important road which leads from the City Gate to the Railway Station "Wake Avenue," which I hope will

stand as a monument to remind generations to come of the great improvements which Colonel Wake has effected in the Capital. I much regret that Colonel Wake will be leaving us in a few months' time on the eve of his retirement. Our loss will be great but his name and his work will ever remain with us.

I should like to take this opportunity of also thanking my old friend, Mr. LaTouche, the Manager of our State Railways, and his able staff of officers who have contributed so much to the progress and prosperity of the State and its people by their devotion to duty under conditions which at times cannot but be very trying especially when they are out on the line. Mr. LaTouche, whose unavoidable absence at Simla on duty, I regret, has been longest in the service of the State amongst the British officers. By the scrupulous discharge of his duties and his loyal and faithful services he has won the respect and the goodwill of both the Jodhpur and Bikaner Durbars, and by his unfailing courtesy, his intimate knowledge and grasp of the customs and ways of, and his free and friendly intercourse with our people, by his reciprocating in the same spirit the proverbial Rajput courtesy, and by his genuine sympathy and love for the people of the country he has won our friendship and our affection.

It would be tedious were I to name all the gentlemen in the other branches of the State service who have also done excellent work, but I would ask you all to be assured that I am not ungrateful to you for what you have done, in different ways and in different spheres, and for the whole-hearted and loyal manner in which you have applied that tradition of devotion to duty which is part of the heritage of Englishmen and Englishwomen. And I would like to thank the various officers in the Public Works, Electrical and Engineering Departments, and couple with them the names specially of Mr. Phillips and Mr. Drummond—two of the oldest officials of the State.

To Major Finnis, who, as Inspecting Officer of Imperial Service Troops, is appointed by Government in accordance with their generous policy to advise and help us in military matters and to train our troops, I would like to convey the sincere thanks of my troops, and to join with them those of myself, for the interest and trouble he has always taken in his duties.

Though they have joined us comparatively recently I should also like to mention Major Goodbody, the Director of our Medical Department, who has effected such improvements in his department and who has inspired such general confidence by his skill both as a surgeon and as a physician; Dr. Marsh, an old friend of ours, to whom I and my Family are indebted for her skilled attendance and professional services during the past ten years. Mr. Barr, our popular Accountant General—who has rendered yeoman service and worked wonders within the short space of a year and who, in spite of an Accountant General's work being a thankless task, has won the friendship and the respect of his colleagues in the other departments; and Captain Medlicott for the able and painstaking manner in which he is assisting me in the arrangements in connection with the Jubilee and His Excellency the Viceroy's visit, which entails such heavy work and responsibility on him.

I should like also to thank Mr. Wilkinson for his services as my Private Secretary during an abnormal year of unusual stress and activity. We shall be sorry to lose him on his proceeding on leave to England, and he has my best

rites. At the same time I am glad to think that in Major Rawlins I shall have, at my elbow, as my Private Secretary, an old friend and a former comrade-in-arms, who is also an old friend of every one in Bikaner, and deservedly popular and held in universal esteem for his unfailing tact and great courtesy; and last, but by no means least, I should like to acknowledge the faithful services of Mr. James, the Band Master, who might be properly termed an old landmark in Bikaner, who brought the State Band from a state of absolute chaos in which it was 16 years ago to its present high pitch of efficiency.

Colonel Wake has referred to my utilizing the services of English officers in all my plans and enterprises. The response which they have made I have already acknowledged. The number of British officers participating in the administration of the State has increased very considerably in the past few years so much so that I am aware that there is a certain amount of unfriendly criticism in this connection in certain quarters outside our State. But where the interests of the administration are concerned, I allow no room for other considerations. When I feel that the employment of British officers will tend to greater efficiency and usefulness; when the Members of my Council feel, as they do, that the British officers are of conspicuous ability and thus eminently fitted to fill the positions they occupy and that they satisfactorily discharge the duties entrusted to them, it is only natural that we should avail ourselves of their services or else we should be failing in our duty to the State—our sole object being to obtain the best possible talents for the particular kind of work required and to put the right man in the right place. The British officers have not only been instrumental in bringing the work of their departments to the requisite standard of efficiency but they have also spared no pains in training the subordinate officers which, in the case of those appointments which are of a temporary nature, will specially be of great value hereafter. The British officers in the State service have, on the other hand, I trust, found here a congenial atmosphere in which to work, and I hope and believe, that they have received sympathetic support not only from myself but also from the Members of my Council, under whose portfolios their respective departments are constituted. We have thus been able to work in a spirit of mutual co-operation and good-will to the great advantage of all concerned; and whenever circumstances render it necessary that more British officers should be employed, we shall continue in the policy which we have been pursuing so far.

We make no differentiation between the European officers and the Indian officers of the State. We extend a welcome to each and every officer, who is prepared to identify his interests with ours and to regard himself—as we are prepared to regard him—as one of ourselves, and I am equally ready to fight for his battles for them should it be in my power to do so, just as I would do for any of my Indian officers.

Lord and Lady Curzon, turning to social matters it has given me special pleasure in obtaining to partake of your hospitality this evening, and the fact that this function has taken place in the Victoria Memorial Club has given me much pleasure, for I was the founder and promoter of the Club when the Bikaner Society in Bikaner was very limited indeed. But we had looked to the future, I think, that this Club would be the means of bringing the East and

the West together—the Europeans and my people—which I had hoped would not only contribute to social amenities, but would also have important and far-reaching results.

I am a profound believer in the great advantages that are likely to accrue both to England and to India from intimate and friendly social relations between the European and Indian gentlemen out here, and I have always thought that in this respect a very heavy responsibility rests on the two communities, for the results of their actions and the effects which they will produce will not be confined to the present generations only but will extend to generations which come after us.

As remarked by Lord Minto, when Viceroy of India, at a banquet given at the Calcutta Club, it is upon a sympathetic recognition of these relations that the political future and happiness of this country must largely depend. It is the mutual understanding and knowledge of each other, the gentle handling of peculiarities of race and creed which will contribute more than anything else to the good government of India. Said Lord Minto "National and racial differences of thought and ways of life there must be ; but if I may say so, a good fellow—and in its proper interpretation that means a great deal—is a good fellow all the world over to whatever nationality or race he may belong." To Lord Minto's words I should like to add 'gentleman' after a 'good fellow.'

In Rajputana and here in Bikaner we start with an advantage. We Rajputs are not so hide-bound and tied down by caste and religious restrictions ; there is a great deal in common between the Englishman and the Rajput ; both have glorious traditions of the past specially as soldiers and both are imbued with the love of sport and of horsemanship ; and each has for generations extended to the other the hand of friendship and good fellowship. The Englishman and the Rajput have, thank God, never fought against each other, but they have often fought shoulder to shoulder, under the British flag—against a common foe—even during the dark days of the Mutiny ; and it should be remembered that the Rajput States came into official contact and relationship with the British Government by the peaceful means of treaties of " alliance and friendship."

The Englishman and the Rajput have thus all the more justification to meet on terms of friendship and equality, of which, it must be said to the credit of both parties, they have hitherto taken full advantage. The relations, even within my own recollection, between the two communities have improved in the happiest way. A better acquaintance with the good qualities of each other have led to the Englishman's coming out from his shell of isolation and to the Rajput's coming out from his bonds of conservatism, and this happy and judicious 'blending' of this East and the West in this connection also, as it was termed by my esteemed friend the Resident at the Durbar the other day, augurs well for the future. If the results are different from what we anticipate, it will be the fault of one or the other of us or of both of us.

In this connection may I be permitted to say a few words with reference to the future. It is in no presumptuous spirit that I venture to offer these remarks. I have a great many opportunities of speaking to my Rajput brethren particularly, and to my Indian friends generally, on this subject, but the opportunity for addressing my English friends which offers itself to-night is.

very rare, and I would beg you to bear with me whilst I speak as a well-wisher and true friend of both the communities. And I hope I may claim a special privilege for doing so, as one who has lived with, and been brought up by, Englishmen of the best type from his earliest childhood, who can count some Englishmen amongst his best and greatest friends in the world, and consequently one who, I hope, not unreasonably, may claim more or less intimate knowledge of the best society of the two communities. May I also add that my remarks refer not to the present leaders of your society who, we all realize, are, by their own examples and influence, already striving in the right direction, nor so much to the present European society here but to those who may come to reside here in the future.

In the first place I make bold to suggest that a careful study of our past history, traditions and national characteristics would not only afford interesting reading but would also be of the greatest advantage; for it is by this means alone that the two communities can properly understand each other, and that their members can avoid those little pitfalls in the observance of proper etiquette and the extension of mutual courtesies which sometimes are so apt to cause offence where it is least intended. At the same time ignorance cannot always be justified, specially when the two communities are brought into such close and continuous contact.

The second point which I would particularly emphasize is that Rajputana is a country of gentlemen; and the poorest Rajput in the humblest walk of life can justly boast of the bluest blood running in his veins as good as that of any Ruler of a State. The system of courtesies which we extend even to each other and also in the same way to other gentlemen outside our community is, as you probably noticed at the Durbar the other day, rather an intricate one. As I said when replying on the 24th September to the address which the Sirdars presented to me, we are proud of our traditions of courtesy and of chivalry, and we are proud also of what to many may seem old-fashioned in regard to our ceremonies and our rules of conduct as well as our family customs and we all try to preserve these traditions and to keep up the high standard of the Rajput ideals—ideals which we fondly hope will never be out of date.

When the Indians here—Rajputs and all—pride themselves on their scrupulous regard in the matter of their extending these courtesies, it will be realized that they naturally expect equally scrupulous care being exercised in the courtesies being returned to them and with the same punctiliousness—which is sometimes incorrectly termed undue sensitiveness—and too much care and attention cannot be paid to this point, so that there should be nothing containing the faintest trace of indifference or slackness or the suggestion of anything casual—to use strong terms—which might produce a jarring note or discordant effect.

Before resuming my seat, permit me to again tender you my most cordial thanks for the compliment which you have paid me by organizing tonight's entertainment and for the elaborate and beautiful preparations you have made.

Ladies and Gentlemen, I raise my glass to my hosts of this evening and drink to their health and happiness.

Speech delivered by His Highness the Maharajah at the Presentation
of Colours, 18th October, 1912.

Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers and men of the Dungar Lancers, Ganga Risala and Sadul Light Infantry,—It is a source of much gratification to me to present you these Colours. As His Majesty the King Emperor said at the presentation of Colours at Delhi, "This Ceremony is a solemn occasion in the history of a regiment. For many ages the Colour of a Regiment were its rallying point in battle. To-day they remain an emblem of duty, the outward symbol of God and Empire, and as a record of past victories". I commit these Colours to your keeping and command you to preserve them, cherish them, and bear them with respect and honour.

As you all know, my troops have been much employed by me. In this I have followed the example of my predecessors, the former Maharajahs of Bikaner, whose swords were ever ready to maintain their rights and to avenge an injury, whether to themselves or their subjects. Nor we have hesitated to assist to the utmost of our power the British Government with whom we are allied by ties of treaty and friendship; and on more than one occasion we have fought and bled besides our comrades in the British Army.

During the dark days of the mutiny in 1857-58 my celebrated ancestor Maharajah Sardar Singhji, alone among the Princes of Rajputana, took the field in person. He loyally placed horse, foot and guns at the disposal of General Van Cortlandt, who was engaged in quelling disturbances in Haryana, with whom the Bikaner troops co-operated; and in a very short time we hear of the Bikaner Troops actively employed in that neighbourhood. They garrisoned both Hissar and Hansi at which latter place they were attacked by some 3,000 mutineers who were repulsed and cut to pieces.

Our troops also fought six successful actions in the Haryana District, though not without loss in killed and wounded; and there is many a tale of fortresses captured, notably at Hazaripur where we sustained very heavy casualties, and at Jamalpur; of refugees succoured and mutineers disarmed by our own people.

On these and other services of a like nature, men of Bikaner vied with each other in performing courageous acts: and I would especially instance the exploit of Khet Singh Rathor of Shampura, who at the taking of Bathul, distinguished himself by his bravery in mounting the rampart in the face of the enemy's fire.

His late Highness's action is thus spoken of in an official despatch by the then Agent to the Governor-General in Rajputana to the Government of India:—

"Sirdar Singh, Maharajah of Bikaner has from the commencement of the outbreak actively exhibited the most loyal friendship and devotion to the British Government, and warmly co-operated with us in the field. The Govern-

ment of India is already well acquainted with the Rajah's services in rescuing, affording refuge to, and supplying the wants of several Europeans. By his courage and the example of his loyalty, he checked disaffection and gave confidence to the wavering. No prince in Rajputana save Bikaner took the field in person in our favour without hesitation. No prince gave the like aid in searching out and rescuing fugitives—though all gave their hospitable shelter and support, and no other Prince exhibited such purely disinterested motives in giving us his active assistance; and none but the Bikaner Rajah suffered so heavy a loss of Rajput kindred and Chiefs whilst fighting purely in our cause. I consider the loyalty and good services of the Bikaner Rajah superior to those of any other Chief in Rajputana."

As an acknowledgment of my ancestor's distinguished services and those of our troops, His Highness was presented in open Durbar with a letter addressed to him by order of Her Imperial Majesty Queen Victoria, and with a *Sanad* from His Excellency the Governor General in Council, granting him 41 villages in the His-sar District, which are now known as the Tibi Pargana.

Apart from our records, reference has been made in the British despatches to every unit of the State Forces: my Body Guard greatly distinguished themselves on the hard-fought Field of Hazaripur, my Cavalry were specially mentioned in the capture of Jamalpur, and my guns as having assisted at the relief of Hansi, while my Infantry were much in evidence throughout the whole of these operations: and I wish to congratulate the present Commandant of the Sadul Light Infantry, Din Dayal, on the fact that his grandfather, who then commanded the Regiment, as well as his father, were in the Regiment and were present throughout the campaign—a proud military record for any family of soldiers.

To come to more recent times, my Ganga Risala have seen service and were in China in 1900-01, where I led them myself; and two years later in Somaliland, where they saw some hard fighting and went through a trying experience in that desolate country, and earned for themselves as you know the distinction of being made the subject of a special field force order from the Chief Commander, General Sir Charles Egerton, K.C.B., acknowledging their services.

I tell you this not that you may be content to live in remembrance of our past performance, but to remind you that these colours must be considered the incarnation of yourselves.

And I, Your Maharajah, feel quite sure that those into whose hands I now commend them, will, in common with you all, realize what they mean; and that each and every one of you will be ready to lay down your life, if necessary, in the honourable duty of their defence. And should the time come when there may be again need of our services, I know that we shall not be wanting, and that as our fathers' sons, we will endeavour to uphold the reputation that has been bequeathed to us.

Nor will your names be forgotten: and the War Memorial recently erected in the Public Park will bear perpetual witness to those who have fallen, and will fall in the defence of the Flag.

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